



# SOUTH MUST TAKE MORE REFUGEES

Report by Peter Madeley

**WEALTHY southern areas of the country should take their fair share of Syrian refugees, says Dudley North MP Ian Austin.**

The Labour MP said that asylum seekers were overwhelmingly concentrated in poorer communities in the North and the Midlands, while many richer areas in the South had taken 'virtually none'.

He said this was putting a strain on public services including schools and hospitals, and called for a fairer distribution of asylum seekers across the UK.

Mr Austin was speaking in a Parliamentary debate on the resettlement of refugees following the Government's commitment to house another 20,000 from Syria.

Dudley supports nearly half as many asylum seekers as the entire South East, he said, while wealthy communities represented by the Prime Minister and nine other cabinet ministers had not taken in a single asylum seeker.

Mr Austin also said there were 380 asylum seekers in all of the areas represented by the cabinet – fewer than in either Wolverhampton or Sandwell. He highlighted official figures showing that the Black Country councils had taken in almost as many asylum seekers as the South West, South East and East put together.

## Support

He said: "People in Dudley have always played their part in welcoming people fleeing persecution abroad, but it's about time people elsewhere did the same."

"The Government must find a fairer way of dispersing people around the country to ease pressure on public services like housing, schools and the NHS in communities like ours."

Last year an investigation by The Chronicle's sister newspaper the Express & Star revealed that one-in-three asylum seekers were sent to the West Midlands. Asylum seekers receive £36 a week, known as Section 95 support, while their application for refugee status is assessed.

Dudley had 226 asylum seekers supported under Section 95, while Sandwell had 695, Wolverhampton 645 and Walsall 234. A total of 1,800 were housed in the Black Country. In the South and East there were 1,843.

Mr Austin wants to see EU structural funds used in areas such as the Black Country that face the biggest pressures on public services.

## GUITAR MAN TUNES UP FOR CHARITY CONCERT



Musician and Stourbridge vintage record and guitar shop owner Pete Boddiss will be performing a fundraising gig with his band at the Robin 2

A MUSICIAN and vintage record shop owner will be headlining a gig in aid of charity.

Pete Boddiss, who runs a guitar and record shop in Stourbridge, will be raising the money by performing his own material at the Robin 2, in Bilston, on March 20 at 8pm.

The night will be in aid of Breast Cancer Now with the Pete Boddiss Band and the Free-wheelin' Band.

Mr Boddiss, aged 71, said: "Music is my passion and we'll be joining together to sing a few songs and raise some money for charity. I've done other gigs at the Robin 2 before and

it's a nice venue. We felt that we wanted to do something as a band for a good cause and this seemed the perfect way."

The Pete Boddiss Band is a six-piece group comprising Pete on vocals and guitars, singer Marilyn Bos, Pete Arrowsmith on lead guitar, Ken Moore on sax and harmonica, Robin Johnson on bass guitar and drummer Kevin Bettingham.

They were formed to play Mr Boddiss' original songs written over the past 30 years.

The Free-wheelin' Band is fronted by singer-songwriter Ian Sutherland.

His shop contains vintage guitars, mandolins, ukuleles, a collection of country music clothes and vintage records.

Mr Boddiss is also a collector of vintage stringed instruments and his collection includes an American acoustic guitar made in 1886 and a 1960s bass that belonged to The Who's John Entwistle.

Tickets are £5 available to buy at the Mount Pleasant venue – call 01902 401211 or see [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk) – or Mr Boddiss' shop above Stourbridge Music Centre in Lower High Street.

## COURT

### Teen charged over gun and ammunition

A TEENAGER has appeared in court accused of possessing a revolver and live ammunition without a licence.

Shaun Scott, aged 19, of Westminster Close, Dudley, was also charged with alleged harassment and possession of cannabis. He did not enter a plea for any of the four charges.

Scott appeared at Dudley Magistrates Court on Monday charged over the alleged offences.

He was remanded in custody to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on February 29.

## DRUGS

### Police find £58k worth of cannabis

AROUND £58,000 worth of cannabis was found by police at a flat in Halesowen.

Officers discovered 58 cannabis plants in the ground floor property in the early morning raid on the address at Manor Lane on Saturday.

Police reported no-one was in the building at the time of the swoop and no arrests had been made in relation to the incident as The Chronicle went to Press. Anyone with information can call police on 101.

## THREATS

### Hoax callers strike again at six schools

SIX schools in the Black Country and Birmingham have received more hoax bomb threats – causing disruption for the third week in a row.

Police said the 'false and malicious' calls were received on Monday after 8am. Lessons were resumed by 10am.

Oldbury and Bristnall Hall academies were threatened for the fourth time, and Shireland Collegiate Academy and Perryfields High for the second time. Hall Green Secondary School and Edgbaston Girls High School faced threats for the first time.

Last week two 14-year-olds were arrested regarding earlier hoax calls.

## INSIDE

### CUBS ENJOY BIRTHDAY BASH



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# Zoo needs guides to talk about the Tectons

GUIDES are being recruited to help give visitors an insight into the history of Dudley Zoo's famous Tecton buildings.

The 12 concrete structures, which range from the iconic wave entrance to the historic bear ravine, date back to when the zoo first opened to the public in 1937.

Some of the Tectons are enclosures for animals while others had a more practical purpose such as the kiosks used to sell ice creams and sweets in times gone by.

The zoo is now appealing for people interested in becoming voluntary tour guides.

Since completion of a major £1.15 million project, which saw four of the Tectons restored to their former glory, the attraction says it has been inundated with requests for tours.

## Modernist

Construction supervisor Carlo Diponio said: "We're looking for 20 guides who can be called upon to provide interesting and informative presentations for visitors about our unique Modernist structures at occasional events throughout the year."

"Following the recent Heritage Lottery funded restoration project on four Tecton buildings, there has been a rise in interest from groups wanting to learn more about these iconic buildings. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone who has a passion for architecture."

The Tecton buildings also include the Queen Mary restaurant.

# £36k library wi-fi upgrade starts

A £36,300 scheme is under way to upgrade free wi-fi services in Dudley libraries.

The project has been paid for after Dudley Council made a successful bid to Arts Council England.

Wi-fi in all Dudley libraries, library links, archives, Himley and Priory Halls will be upgraded to the council's free DudleyConnect service on February 15.

This will give the public easy access to the internet using their own devices.

Councillor Rachel Harris said "We've been offering free wi-fi at libraries since 2011, but this upgrade makes registering and using wi-fi simpler and allows users to access this facility in a range of council buildings."

# Repair centre is creating 12 jobs

A DOZEN jobs are being created in Kingswinford at a new accident repair centre. The centre, at Second Avenue on the Pensnett Trading Estate, represents a £250,000 investment by BodyKraft, based on the same estate.

# Weekly market proposed for Stourbridge



A past market in Stourbridge town centre

STOURBRIDGE'S High Street could close to traffic on Thursdays under plans to create a weekly outdoor market day in the town centre.

High Street and part of Market Street would shut every Thursday under the proposals by market operator LSD Promotions.

Traders have previously resisted plans to have a market close the High Street over fears it could affect business for shops. But LSD Promotions says it is aiming to transform the town centre and make it a bustling market place one day a week.

Officials said road closures would be necessary to allow visitors to explore the market.

Businesses in the town centre will now be consulted to see if they are in favour of the plans.

The first market could be held as soon as April, with LSD Promotions keen to run them until December and then, depending on their success, decide whether they should become a permanent fixture.

Spokesman Dermot McGillcuddy said: "Using modern, high-class pop-up canopies and equipment, the

stalls would be positioned in front of the Ryemarket shopping centre, by the fountain, in High Street and Market Street. This would require the street to be closed to traffic on market day creating an atmospheric shopping environment and space for shoppers to circulate safely.

"Thursday was traditionally half-day closing in Stourbridge and considered by many businesses to be the quietest trading day, but we believe, and are confident, that we can create a vibrant and highly successful market."

# Euro MP is taking pubs battle to Westminster

WEST Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge will head to Westminster in his campaign to protect pubs.

UKIP Euro MP and Dudley councillor Mr Etheridge has requested a meeting with the pubs minister, Marcus Jones MP, to seek assurances from the Government that more will be done to protect profitable pubs from being taken over.

Campaign for Real Ale member Mr Etheridge, who is also a Sedgley councillor, has supported community groups such as those who have managed to save the Seven Stars in Gospel End Road, Sedgley, and the Hare and Hounds in Wollaston.

He said: "The West Midlands has been hit hard by recent deals which have thrown doubts over the future of 360 pubs.

"Legislation to protect against this has proved woefully inadequate and I want to know what this Government plan to do about it."

"Profitable pubs like the Hare and Hounds and the Seven Stars should not be in the position they are in now."

"Once again, we have seen greedy corporations steering Government policy and it has to stop before the whole industry is destroyed."

Joining him in his campaign will be Martin Day, UKIP's regional 'save the pub' spokesman.

## Licensee

Former licensee Mr Day said: "Since 1989 the UK licensed trade has been the victim of some shockingly bad legislation."

"Our aim is to start reversing the damage and reaffirm the status of the pub at the heart of our communities."

In November Mr Etheridge held talks with bosses of Punch Taverns as part of his effort to protect profitable pubs from redevelopment. Mr Etheridge met chief executive Duncan Garrod and PR director Andy Slee.

New River Retail has acquired 370 pubs from both Punch Taverns and Marston's, with many of those threatened with conversion, closure or the loss of car parking facilities.

Pubs targeted for supermarkets in recent months have included The Maypole in Halesowen, the Haden Cross in Cradley Heath and the Seven Stars.

Mr Etheridge has previously called the closure of pubs 'a depressing trend'.

## Anniversary for cancer help group



Founder Denise Hudson (left), of Stourton, Steve Waltho and Jayne Waltho, with Elaine Crowder, of Norton

A CANCER support group is celebrating its tenth anniversary and several successful fundraising events.

The Rainbow Breast Reconstruction group was formed by Denise Hudson and Debbie Barnett who met at a checkout at Sainsbury's in Amblecote and found they were both recovering from breast cancer.

Over the years the group has helped ladies undergoing breast

reconstruction following cancer, as well as raising up to £60,000 for The White House cancer charity and Russells Hall Hospital cancer unit in Dudley.

Mayor and mayoress of Dudley, Councillor Steve Waltho and his wife Jayne, were present for the celebration last week along with Elaine Crowder from Sainsbury's.

Mrs Hudson, who officially started the charity in January 2006, said belonging to the group

had allowed her to meet inspiring people. She added: "I would like to say thank you to everyone who has helped us over the past 10 years. I feel privileged to have met some lovely people who have inspired me. It is about living through cancer and doing something positive and everyone has come together as a community."

The group gets together every third Thursday at The White House in Ednam Road, Dudley.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Hippodrome plan will be scrutinised

AN independent assessor has been appointed to scrutinise plans submitted by a team trying to save Dudley Hippodrome from demolition.

The package from a new steering group working with the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome is being scrutinised with a final decision expected in the coming weeks.

Dudley Council has already approved controversial plans to demolish the Hippodrome to create an 'open public space' but officials allowed campaigners another attempt to prepare a realistic plan for taking it over.

### UKIP wants more female support

UKIP representative for Upper Gornal and Woodsetton, Karen Jones, has been unanimously elected to take the helm as chairman of the UKIP Dudley and Halesowen branch.

Mrs Jones said she was ready for the challenges ahead. "The local elections are just around the corner and UKIP is already on the march as we fight to bolster our numbers on Dudley Council."

She added: "As the branch's first female chairman, I hope to encourage more women to stand up for Dudley by joining us."

### Never too late to learn how to cook

A FREE six-week course on getting started in cookery is being held at the Beacon Centre for the Blind in Sedgley.

The course, which is being run by Age Concern Dudley, starts on March 1.

For more information on how to sign up e-mail [mmanville@beaconvision.org](mailto:mmanville@beaconvision.org)

It is open to those living in Dudley over the age of 55. Classes will run between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

### Homes given green light at derelict pub

A DERELICT pub will be turned into seven new homes, after plans were given the green light.

Council planners have given the go-ahead to the proposals for the Golden Cross pub in Netherton, a vandalised property at the corner of Cradley Road and Saltwells Road.

The permission from Dudley Council for new homes ends the hopes of Primrose Hill Congregational Church to turn the building into a community centre.

### Industry at archives

A NEW exhibition about business and industry in the Dudley area is being staged at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre.

The Making Brass history exhibit will run through to March at the centre next to the Black County Living Museum in Tipton Road.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THE Bishop of London suggests that bearded vicars may find it easier to "reach out" to Muslims. The snag, of course, is that a majority of new priests in the Anglican Church are female. A burka, perhaps?

THE Mad World of Donald Trump (C4) seemed to start with a prejudiced title. But the more you watched Matt Frei's hour-long documentary, the more the word "mad" seemed appropriate. Donald Trump is triumphing because America is scared and wants a new messiah. It's scared of migration, scared of terrorists, scared of things that are foreign, alien or not understood. The irony is that the perceived solution – electing President Donald J Trump – is scarier than anything else.

BUT let's not be too snifty and superior. How many Paris-scale massacres would it take in London, Birmingham or Manchester before Trumpery arose in England?

THOSE of us who once owned a racoon-skin hat may have lived to see the beginning and the end of the TV revolution. It began in the 1950s when we kids suddenly discovered that no game of cowboys and Indians in a freezing street was half as good as the Cisco Kid on a nine-inch Pye in a warm lounge. The TV revolution entered its demise this week with the report that internet-savvy kids are no longer watching much telly. The TV companies, while putting a brave face on it, must be absolutely terrified.

EMMA Reynolds, Wolverhampton MP and former shadow minister, is, like many MPs, too young to remember life outside the EU (or Common Market as we were told to call it). When she says "leaving the EU would be "the worst of all worlds," she is addressing an ageing electorate, many of whom recall Britain before the 1975 referendum, and remember it rather fondly.

I WONDER if Worcester feels any sense of communal shame over the rush by hordes of locals chasing the £33 million Lotto jackpot. Okay, one or two may genuinely believe they have the winning ticket. But Camelot report hundreds of claimants, suggesting attempted fraud on a massive scale. Oxford is the city of dreaming spires. Is Worcester the city of scheming liars?

A READER shares a gem of a platform announcement at Birmingham New Street. It works best in a Brummie accent: "Platform Six for the 16:33 to Northampton, calling at Marston Green (slight pause) and lots of other places."

ADVERTISING staff go into a school and ask children how clean they feel after wiping their bottoms on toilet tissue. Aren't Andrex TV ads weird?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Road disruption ahead for motorists

MOTORISTS in Stourbridge face disruption after plans for two major roadworks schemes on busy routes around the town were announced.

Drivers have been told to expect delays next month.

Resurfacing work will start in Birmingham Street, near Stourbridge tip, from February Monday. Works will stretch from the ring road to Stamford Road and drivers are told

to expect diversions, temporary lane closures and stop-and-go signs.

Initial work will be carried out at night with a road closure in place until February 14 as officials try to minimise disruption.

## Diversion

A signed diversion route via A491 Hagley Road, B4186 Glasshouse Hill and Grange Road and A4036 Grange

Lane and Pedmore Road will be in place.

Work on the opposite side of the road, heading towards the ring road, will take place between 9.30am and 3.30pm using stop-and-go signs or temporary lane closures.

Meanwhile, a separate resurfacing project will be under way at the same time in Amblecote. Work on St Johns Road, between Amblecote High

Street and Hagley Road, will be from 7pm until 3am using lane closures.

Councillor Hilary Bills said: "We always work hard to keep disruption to a minimum whenever undertaking highway improvements but on such a key route some disruption is unfortunately inevitable. Work has been scheduled to avoid peak traffic times and we hope to complete the project as soon as possible."

# It's best for patients if clinic closes – GP

By Marion Brennan

**A GP from a surgery due to shut has backed the decision of health chiefs, saying it will improve the service for patients.**

Wordsley Green Medical Practice runs its main health centre in The Green, Wordsley, but will close its branch surgery in Market Street, Kingswinford, on March 14.

More than 30 objections from patients about the closure – citing reasons of transport, logistics and staffing – have been made. But practice partner, Doctor Randheer Mochikkal said that many patients understood why it was being done.

"Ultimately we want to improve the quality of service for all," he said. "This means there will be more reception staff to answer phones and more consultation rooms at Wordsley Green.

"There will be a bigger team of staff to bring it all together in the best possible way. We want to make the impact as minimal as possible and an equal service for all."

## Concerned

He added: "The key comments and feelings from patients were that overall they were understanding.

"We did have some concerned about transport to Wordsley Green and the lack of personal service at a larger site, but we want to reassure them that the staff at Market Street will all be moved to Wordsley Green too, so that familiarity will still be there."

Overall 9,789 patients are served by the two branches, with around 1,350 of those using Market Street.

The decision for closure, which was made at a Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group meeting, came as bosses stated the branch was "no longer fit for purpose" and running at a substantial loss.

Steve Wellings, primary commissioning group chairman, said: "No one likes to close GP surgeries but there is a financial threat to this practice as a whole."

Letters will be sent to all patients.

## Muck no obstacle for intrepid duo



Co-workers Charlotte Needham, from Kinver, and Neil Scott, of Tipton, are hoping to raise £500 for Myeloma UK

TWO adventurous employees Auto Styling Truckman in Brierley Hill are preparing to tackle a gruelling 10km obstacle course to raise money for a cancer charity.

Charlotte Needham, an account manager from Kinver and Neil Scott, field sales manager from Tipton, are hoping to raise £500 for Myeloma UK.

They have already undertaken a punishing training schedule to ensure they achieve their goal.

The Mud Yard course, taking place on March 19 at Drayton Manor theme park, will put the pair's fitness levels to the test, with water crossings, muddy fields and a dense woodland area standing between them and the finish line.

Auto Styling Truckman, the UK's leading 4x4 vehicle

accessory manufacturer and distributor, is a long-term supporter of Myeloma UK, and has previously sponsored its charity ball, helping to raise more than £28,000.

Myeloma UK is the only organisation in the UK dealing exclusively with myeloma.

It provides information and support to patients and their families and helps myeloma patients live longer with a better quality of life.

Charlotte said: "It is a challenging course but Neil and I determined to get to the finishing line and raise as much money possible for Myeloma."

To support Charlotte and Neil's fundraising, go to [www.justgiving.com/Autostylingtruckman](http://www.justgiving.com/Autostylingtruckman) or for more information on myeloma go to [www.myeloma.org.uk](http://www.myeloma.org.uk)

# £25k fund to set-up a scheme for traders

AROUND £25,000 of funding has been secured for a project aiming to boost investment in Halesowen.

Campaigners are hoping to set up a Business Improvement District to fund a range of projects in the town centre.

Public events, clean-up programmes and improved marketing are among projects which could be funded through the scheme.

The BID scheme will see firms join forces to create a single company, with each member paying a levy. Members will then get to decide how the money is spent.

It is estimated that a BID company in Halesowen could generate £51,668 with a one per cent levy and £103,337 if it is set at two per cent.

Halesowen BID manager Barry Wheeler said he was delighted the group had secured the start-up funding through Dudley Council.

"We are happy to have this money now to allow us to move forward," he said.

This cash allows business plans to be drawn up and a glossy brochure is being created to help market the scheme.

Mr Wheeler said he would be holding meetings with traders this month to encourage signing up with BID.

A majority of members are needed to vote in favour of setting up the scheme when a poll is taken in late spring.

A similar scheme is being worked on for Stourbridge.

## Registration is launched for runs

THIS year's Black Country Run will take place in Halesowen on Sunday, July 3.

Registration has already opened on the event's website at [www.theblackcountryrun.com](http://www.theblackcountryrun.com) and this year there will be a 5k family fun run alongside the 10k event.

Last year more than 1,100 runners took part in the 10k event organised by Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary Club.

Those taking part in the main event and the family fun run will help to raise lots of money for various charities and good causes. The 2015 run raised £23,000 and the total amount now raised for charity since the inaugural event in 2012 is £77,000.

The 10k race will start at 9am and the fun run at 11.30am.

## Beach Boy brings his Pet Sounds to Brum

BEACH Boys legend Brian Wilson is to play in Birmingham onto mark the 50th anniversary of one of his band's most famous albums. The Pet Sounds anniversary tour visits Symphony Hall on March 18 with his bandmates Al Jardine and Blondie Chaplin.

## ADVERTISEMENT

# Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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## Club aiming to draw in extra players after revamp

A FOOTBALL club is planning to build new state-of-the-art facilities to try to attract the next generation of players.

West Hagley Football Club has launched a bid for funding which would allow it to build new changing rooms. Planning permission has already been granted for the new facility and it is hoped work could start within months.

But the club is relying on around £180,000 in funding which it hopes can be delivered by the Football Foundation and other organisations.

The current facilities on Hagley Playing Fields are 50 years old. The old building would be demolished and the new facility, which would include two changing rooms, disabled toilets, showers, a cafe and kitchen area, storage room, referee's room and a club area, would go up in its place.

West Hagley runs football clubs for various age groups, meaning hundreds of youngsters would benefit from the upgrade.

Hagley councillor Steve Colella said the run-down building needed updating. "It's a 1960s building and its not very nice at all."

"We have near enough 400 members and the majority of those train on Saturday mornings so we want to keep the numbers we have but want more development. We also want to increase the number of girls at the club."

Bosses hope the new facilities will be completed for the start of the 2016/17 season.

## Call to deal with poor car parking

A STOURBRIDGE councillor has called for a crackdown on vehicles illegally parking on zigzag lines.

Cars and vans have been parking on the lines in Bridgnorth Road and Wollaston Road in Wollaston village causing traffic blockages.

Now Councillor Nicolas Barlow, who represents the Wollaston and Stourbridge town ward, has said that drivers should be targeted for their inconsiderate parking.

He said: "It is not acceptable and I think a polite letter should be sent to whoever does it to inform them that it is wrong."

"The zigzags are there for a reason and careless drivers should be aware of this."

## New group focus on family history

A GROUP researching family history is being launched. The first meeting is on March 7, from 10.30am to 12.30pm at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre, Tipton Road. Book on (01384) 818310 or (01384) 812770.

# We must learn lessons from Holocaust



Survivor Susan Pollack at Dudley College

DUDLEY'S annual Holocaust memorial event listened to an address by 85-year-old survivor Susan Pollack.

Hungarian Jew Mrs Pollack said her time in Auschwitz-Birkenau and marching to Bergen-Belsen had totally dehumanised her. "I was a robot, I had no emotions," she said.

Mrs Pollack and her family were ordered to leave their home in April 1944. She, her brother and their mother were sent to a ghetto, then an internment camp. In May 1944, they were taken by rail cattle truck to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Her mother

was sent directly to the gas chambers, while the 13-year-old survived by lying about her age - stating she was 15.

She remained in the camp for around 10 weeks before being sent to Germany to work as a slave labourer in an armaments factory. With the Allies advancing, the prisoners were forced on a death march to Bergen-Belsen.

On April 15, 1945, Mrs Pollack was liberated by the British Army. She said the 'gentle' nature of the British soldier who picked her off the floor in

Belsen reminded her of the good side of humanity.

Mrs Pollack said it was important people continue to remember what happened during the Holocaust to ensure it cannot happen again. She said: "We can't change the past but we can learn lessons from the persecution and killing that took place in Europe. People need to make a strong commitment that we won't allow it to take place again."

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said Mrs Pollack's presence was 'humbling and inspirational'.

# School claims figures don't give full picture

A BLACK Country school says that official figures ranking it as bottom of Dudley's secondary school league tables don't give a true picture of its performance.

Statistics released by the Department for Education (DfE) last month placed Elmfield Rudolf Steiner School as bottom of Dudley's school league tables for GCSE results.

But school leaders say the figures have been distorted due to pupils studying an alternative curriculum that staggers the times when they take exams.

They say that last year 77 per cent of final year pupils at Elmfield achieved five or more GCSEs at A\*-C, including English and maths. School spokesman Chris Field said: "At Elmfield Rudolf Steiner School students study the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum, rather than the National Curriculum."

"This curriculum contains all the subjects you would expect such as maths, English, science and languages. From Year 10 students study for their GCSEs, whilst continuing to study the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum until Year 12."

### Majority

"As a result of this they stagger their exams, taking up to four GCSEs in Year 11 and a further four in Year 12."

"Our pupils' GCSE results are consistently above the national average with the vast majority of students going onto sixth form college and university."

"However, the DfE, when reporting GCSE results across the country, do not look at our GCSEs taken in Year 12."

"Our pupils have only taken four GCSEs at the end of Year 11 so even if they have got four A\*s they will appear to have failed by the DfE's measure of five GCSEs."

"It is only by looking at the results of our Year 12 final year students that you get the full picture."

Last year dozens of secondary schools - including St Peter's Collegiate CofE School in Wolverhampton - saw their results plummet to zero because some combinations of English GCSEs and international GCSEs did not count towards results.

## Gardeners' blooming great effort



Staff at Ashwood Nurseries celebrate breaking their fundraising target for Macmillan Cancer Support

KEEN gardeners have collected a blooming marvellous amount of money for a cancer charity.

Ashwood Nurseries, near Kingswinford, collected more than £21,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support over a year.

The plant nursery and garden centre held six charity open days, welcoming 3,283 visitors.

Nursery owner John Massey was thanked by Macmillan's Dudley committee for raising £21,810,

which had smashed the garden centre's target of £15,000.

Nursery manager Tony Cartwright said: "Our main fundraising came from John's Garden Open Days and Hellebore Tours, where the entire proceeds from entrance charges are donated."

"There were many other projects and activities held throughout the year including a Macmillan coffee morning in our tea and staff room."

He added: "The money Ashwood has raised will be used locally."

Money raised by Ashwood will also support the Specialist Care at Home partnership, which is run by Mary Stevens Hospice, NHS Dudley Foundation Trust and other organisations.

The next John's Garden Charity Open Day is on Saturday, in aid of Wombourne High Flyers for adults with learning difficulties.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### School site in line to have housing

A FORMER primary school in Pensnett is to be knocked down to make way for new homes.

The Education Centre in Church Street has been empty for some years and is deemed surplus to requirements by Dudley Council.

A total of 14 new homes would be built on the site under the plans, with the development split into detached and semi-detached properties.

Pensnett councillor John Martin said: "It has been derelict for a long time and a derelict building is always an eyesore."

### Roadworks alert over gas project

MOTORISTS face disruption as roadworks that could last up to five weeks got under way in Rowley Regis.

Church Road, from Rowley Village to Longmeadow, and Park Avenue have been closed for work to replace a gas mains.

The work, which began last week, will see traffic from Church Road diverted via Hawes Lane, Tipton Green, Portway Road and Hanover Road. Park Avenue diversions will be made through Church Road and Newhall Road. The work by Balfour Beatty is expected to finish on February 19.

### Tory candidate for commissioner

A FORMER leader of Dudley Council has been picked by the Conservative Party as their candidate for West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

Les Jones, aged 60, previously stood as the Conservative Police and Crime Commissioner candidate at the 2014 by-election.

Mr Jones represents Pedmore and Stourbridge East on Dudley Council. He was chairman of finance at the old West Midlands Police Authority.

### Hospice charity for children praised by MP

AN MP has hailed the importance of a Black Country children's charity following a visit to their new facilities.

Mike Wood, MP for Dudley South, received a guided tour of Acorns in Walsall. They provide care for life-limited children and young people, and support for their families.

Mr Wood was shown around the new parent accommodation facility. He said: "It's very uplifting to see how tirelessly Acorns work for children and young people."

### Arena wins venue title

THE Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham won the Best Arts or Entertainment Venue category in the city's 2016 Wonders of Westside Awards.

The winners were revealed during the awards night, just a short distance from the arena at the International Convention Centre.

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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Charity, yes but wrong person to promote it

NOW, I've never heard of the charity Survivors of Domestic Abuse before, but if it offers help and support for victims of marital violence then it sounds like a very worthy cause.

So why, when it was collecting money at Tesco in Stourbridge, did it choose "White Dee" Deirdre Kelly from Benefits Street to promote its fundraising effort? I know we live in a television-obsessed age, where anyone who has appeared on the small screen is now considered to be some kind of celebrity. But does somebody, whose main claim to fame has been milking the benefits system for years on end, really make you want hand over your hard-earned cash? Surely they could have found a better ambassador.

□□□

ACTOR Will Smith has spoken to clarify his boycott of last month's Oscars. Although I'm not sure 'clarify' is the word.

"The media creates the 'us and them' and for me there is no us and them, it's 'we'," he said. Don't really know what he is talking about, but might have guessed it would somehow be the media's fault.

"There's a regression of America in general of separatism ... so for me it's more about putting my hand up and reminding my community, the Hollywood community, that we have to lead. Diversity is America's superpower, that is what makes our country great, and in Hollywood we have to be pushing forward even in a time of wider regression."

I think that's luvvie speak for he wants Hollywood to ensure all communities are represented. And he's right.

This year's Oscars nominations were a disgrace. Ten categories, 221 nominations, and all from the same narrow group.

Not a single actor from the Black Country. I definitely won't be attending next year.

□□□

BUT seriously though, amid all the eulogies to Sir Terry Wogan, the one comment that stood out was that he was the man who introduced 'the accent' to the airwaves.

Unashamedly proud of his Irishness, Wogan himself said his distinctive voice gave him a "classlessness" which meant he couldn't be pigeon-holed.

If only we were so enlightened when it comes to domestic accents. Sadly though, almost exactly half a century since he joined the BBC, there is still a perception that anybody with a Midland accent – regardless of their social background or educational achievement – is a figure of fun, okay for stand-up or playing the dimwit in sitcoms, but lacking authority when it comes to the serious stuff.

Want to do the difficult stuff? Better fake a Home Counties accent, old boy.

Clearly, some accents are more classless than others.



Cubs tuck into fish and chip at the Black Country Living Museum



Explorers — the youngsters run through the museum's streets



Eyes love cupcakes, says Georgie Young during the day out

# Cubs get together to mark 100 years

More than 1,000 Cub Scouts descended upon the Black Country Living Museum, NICK HUMPHREYS reports

**MORE than 1,250 youngsters and leaders descended on the Black Country Living Museum to celebrate 100 years of Cub Scouts.**

Dubbed The Wildest Birthday Party Ever, children from across the region enjoyed an action-packed day out at the museum, with boat rides, a visit to the school and trip down a mine.

The event on Sunday, January 24, kicked off proceedings for the organisation's centenary year celebrations.

Mark Bache, assistant county commissioner for the West Mercia Cub Scouts, has been involved with cubs for more than 30 years.

He believes that despite the amount of games and gadgets available to youngsters nowadays, cubs is still as strong an institution as ever, and offers essential learning, fun and adventure for children. He said: "We've had lots of things going on and we've kicked things off with a bit of a party."

"They had a tour of the museum, they went in the school, in the mine, they have done all of it."

## Adventure

"For me, it's about giving young people fun and adventure. We do all sorts of activities. The weather was a bit overcast but it was been warm enough for us and stayed dry which was the main thing."

"It was fantastic, the kids had a brilliant time and it was a great way to start our centenary year."

"We have our County Camp in July, which is called Jungle Jam 100, and there will be lots of different events at local clubs over the year."

"Our activities will finish for the year on December 16, when we'll be renewing the promise."

He added: "Scouting is the West Midlands



1st Bromley-Pensnett cubs get ready to sample a celebration cake shaped like a cub's shirt

is huge and we do some amazing things. We have also teamed up with Dudley Canal Trust and are taking 800 young people and adult volunteers through the tunnels under Dudley."

Alex Peace-Gadsby, chief commissioner for England, hopes the centenary celebrations

draw attention to the cubs, and inspire more youngsters to get involved.

She said: "So many great things are already in place. We've got some fantastic partners providing days out for cubs across the UK and there's a brilliant new website packed full of

resources to help make it an unforgettable year."

"By our reckoning, there will be more than 5,000 thanks events, adventure camps and Promise parties."

"The anniversary represents both an opportunity and a challenge. It's a great opportunity to inspire young people to stay to the very end of cubs and make the jump into Scouts."

"I'm so impressed and grateful at the way volunteers are using the year to provide an even more adventurous programme for our young people, with plenty of opportunities for camping and sleepovers – exactly the sort of thing that keeps cubs coming back for more."

"Whatever we do for Cubs100, we mustn't let this opportunity pass us by."

"Rather than celebrate behind closed doors we need to give the world a taste of the special fun, magic and optimism that has made cubs such an incredible success over the last 100 years."

There are around 150,000 cubs aged between eight and 10 in the UK.

Cubs forms the middle section of a Scout group, with the Beaver colony below and the Scout troop above.

There are seven challenge awards in scouting, with categories being Outdoor and Adventure, Beliefs and Attitudes, Community, Fitness, Creative and Global. Activity badges are awarded for demonstrating skill or achievement in a particular subject which may be an existing hobby or a new area of knowledge.

There are currently 34 different badges available. Cubs take part in activities as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, expeditions overseas, photography, climbing and zorbing. They also learn survival skills, first aid, computer programming, or even how to fly a plane. Organisers say it's a great way to have fun, make friends, get outdoors, express your creativity and experience the wider world.

Scouts develop skills including teamwork, time management, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, cultural awareness and commitment.

West Mercia Cub Scouts covers Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton and South Staffordshire. For further information, visit [www.westmerciascouts.org.uk](http://www.westmerciascouts.org.uk)

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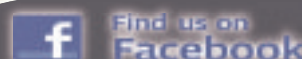
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# Every dog is a nuisance, even friendly ones

WHY does D White think that just because dog owners use Himley seven days a week, 52 weeks a year and pay a parking fee to do so, that should entitle them to call the shots about how the park is used?

Has he/she ever considered that may be the reason non-dog owners do not go as often. The dog owners allow their dogs to run free and defecate anywhere.

You may say that they pick up after them and I am sure the majority do, but can you honestly say that you pick up every little bit and what happens

if your dog has, how can I put it, a tummy upset. They also urinate anywhere and everywhere. Maybe this will explain why a dog-free zone picnic area is a good idea.

Your dog may be a very friendly dog that might be very cute and nice for you and people who like dogs. But my son at the age of three was knocked over and licked in the face by a large very friendly dog, off the lead. His owner just kept saying 'he won't hurt you' but try telling a three year old that.

Following this incident he developed a terror of dogs so bad that at seven

years old he jumped into the path of a car to avoid a dog on the pavement.

The fear was passed on to his younger sister and going out became almost impossible. The only thing we could do was to have a puppy of our own to get them used to dogs.

Now 45 years later history has repeated itself and my granddaughter is now terrified to go to the park due to an identical incident. To a non-dog lover every dog is a nuisance dog, even if they are on a lead.

**J JAMES**  
Wordsley

## Thank you for mom's home care

IT is difficult caring for a relative living and dying with cancer. My mom died last September having been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin lymphoma in the previous six months.

She had good days when we could go out and about, and bad days when she needed to just sit and rest. The last five days were particularly hard when she was really poorly.

We could not have coped at home without the specialist care of the Dudley palliative team, who were exceptional.

From the carers who helped her to maintain her dignity to the district nurses and Macmillan nurses who controlled her pain. During the night Marie Curie nurses would sit with her, enabling me to have a reasonable night's sleep.

I cannot praise these angels enough for their dedication and compassion at one of the worst times in my life.

**JACKIE FARRINGTON**  
Halesowen

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**POST**  
Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

**EMAIL**  
dudley.chrons@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and **MUST** include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Write with care on high speed vehicles

THE January 28 edition of the Chronicle contained two detailed reports of horrific deaths and injuries caused by irresponsible drivers.

Your headline was 'Call for sports car road ban'. This featured a 21-year-old woman waiting at a bus stop killed by a driver as he raced at 100 mph in a 40 mph zone on Hagley Road West. He was racing against a friend in another car. One was a Mitsubishi Evolution, the other a BMW M3.

On page three you featured 'Speeding killer driver gets 40 months prison'. A Mercedes E250 driven at up to 93 mph, and at 61 mph at the moment of impact, killed a 39-year-old pedestrian.

Most folks would immediately demand that this kind of driving should be discouraged and drivers encouraged to behave more responsibly.

Yet in the same edition of the Chronicle the motoring correspondent writes in such a vein as to almost encourage high speeds in different models. Surely this could be construed as an invitation to risk death or serious injury to pedestrians and other road users.

**PETER BIDDULPH**  
(address supplied)

## Intelligent stop lights are needed

I have always thought road islands are better as there is always flow around them whereas with traffic lights I find I spend a lot of time waiting at a red light with no traffic coming across.

In this age when we are talking about driverless cars it must be possible to have more intelligent lights. I'm sure these have been around for some time, so why are they not used more extensively?

The main problem with the larger island is when the speed of the cars can be a problem to get on them. So how about speed bumps around larger islands?

It appears that those who manage our roads do not appear to know what they are doing. Here's some examples: £75,000 spent on traffic calming measures down Barrs Road – to no effect; time and money spent on Grange Road island – no better; two lanes into one at top of Mucklow Hill – chaos.

**C FANTOM**  
Halesowen

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**CPA - Consumer Protection Association** - De Rosa Glass Home Improvements are proud members of the CPA. The CPA will only deal with proven and accredited companies, they fully vet the Company in question for professional competence and integrity, which continues throughout the membership. They are also regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority,



and offer a range of services to protect you, the consumer when purchasing home improvements, once again delivering complete peace of mind from beginning to end, and beyond. Customers complete questionnaires and send them back directly. CPA also issue a 10year insurance backed guarantee.

**Checkatrade** - As members of Checkatrade, once again we have gone through an number of checks and assessments, and most importantly, this includes speaking to customers directly as part of this process. The customers complete questionnaire's and sent them directly to Checkatrade, where this is then published on their website. As a company, you have to be 100% confident in both your product and workforce before you join such a scheme, as the feedback is published to the public for all to see, what better recommendation is there for the consumer?

**Products** - De Rosa Glass Home Improvements are well known for using the very best products that the market has to offer. We do not believe in using inferior products and pride our self strongly on supplying quality and most importantly secure products that will stand the test of time. All of our products are on display in our showroom.

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4-6 up for grabs. Kickstart the day at the renowned Catwalk Show to see the latest trends for all the bridal party. Then head to the Wedding Theatre to discover all you need to know about big day beauty, hair and style.

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Picture: Ian Stuart at Adele Louise Bridal

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# 'I hope lessons will be learned from tragedy'



Linda Cooksey, of Kinver, with an apology from the Department of Work and Pensions, following her brother's suicide

**A SISTER who received a Government apology after her brother committed suicide when his benefits were cut says she hopes lessons have been learned.**

Linda Cooksey brought a two-year campaign to a close when departments personally wrote to say sorry.

Mrs Cooksey's brother, Tim Salter, took his own life two years ago when he was threatened with eviction from his home in Meddins Lane, Kinver.

South Staffordshire coroner Andrew Haigh had ruled the sizeable reduction in Mr Salter's benefits had

been a 'major factor in his death'. The 53-year-old, who was partially sighted and suffered from mental health problems, had been left 'almost destitute' when threatened with repossession.

Mrs Cooksey, of Chandler Avenue, Kinver, who found her brother dead in his home, said she hoped people facing similar problems would know where to get help.

The Department for Work and Pensions, in a letter to Mrs Cooksey, said it accepted the Ombudsman's finding, which said there was an error administering Mr Salter's claim and its review had been 'insufficiently thorough'. It offered its apologies for the errors.



Tim Salter - died after benefits cut

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# Parents jailed after baby had multiple fractures

A COUPLE have been jailed for child cruelty after their baby daughter was found to have terrible injuries.

The eight-month-old girl had seven fractured ribs and further fractures to both arms and a shoulder blade, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

She also had a 'very large' number of bruises over her body and limbs, said Bernard Linnemann, prosecuting.

The shocking discovery was only made after her father Wayne Jones called 999 just after midnight on February 12, 2014, to complain that he was feeling suicidal.

The mother was not at the flat in Halesowen after leaving the little girl in his care while she went out for the night and she had not come back.

## Pain

When the apparently well-dressed baby was lifted by the paramedics she appeared to be in pain and was taken to hospital along with Jones.

"He was discharged but the child was found to have a very large number of bruises to her body and limbs.

"Further investigation found the fractures," said Mr Linnemann.

Experts concluded the injuries had been inflicted on at least two separate occasions during the preceding two to seven weeks.

Both 27-year-old Jones and the child's mother - Abbie Jones, aged 19 - were arrested the same day.

"The cruelty must have been serious, whoever inflicted it," said the prosecutor.

A relative had previously noticed bruising to the child's body and forehead.

Abbie Jones admitted causing or allowing a child to suffer serious injury.



Wayne Jones - two and a half year term

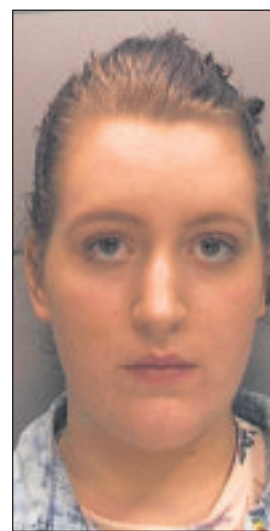
Her former partner Wayne Jones pleaded not guilty but was convicted of the offence after a trial.

It remains unclear who was directly responsible for the injuries to the child.

Mr Benjamin Nicholls, for Wayne Jones, told the court that the defendant was not a violent man and was not drunk when making the phone call that led to the plight of the child being uncovered.

Mr Mac Davies, for Abbie Jones said: "She is ashamed and remorseful."

Wayne Jones, who was living in



Abbie Jones - jailed for 20 months

Northfield, Birmingham, was jailed for two and a half years.

Abbie Jones, who lives in Halesowen was sent to jail up for 20 months.

## Failed

Judge Kristina Montgomery QC reminded the pair of the injuries sustained by the little girl.

She told them: "There were fractures to seven of her ribs, both upper arms and one of her shoulder blades.

"You both failed to protect her from those assaults."

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The vast showroom has so much on display

# Expansion pays off as sales soar



The new state-of-the-art showroom with market leading products

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE

DW Windows Ltd has gone from strength to strength over the last 12 months since renovating its new premises in Meadow Lane, Coseley, creating one of the largest showrooms in the Midlands and generating 14 new jobs for local people.

The company's turnover has increased by 30 per cent and is well on target to double in the next couple of years.

### Proud

The new state-of-the-art showroom and head office has plenty of space to allow future expansion into new areas and of course enables DW Windows Ltd to showcase many of its market leading products.

The showroom has eight conservatories and orangeries, a couple of porches and dozens of windows and doors on display, al-

lowing customers to see, touch and feel before they invest their hard-earned money.

Company director Dave Walters states: "It's been the best business decision I have ever made, opening the new place."

"The response from everyone who visits is overwhelming as the design, planning and creation of Meadow Lane is all my own doing and it really makes me proud when people congratulate me on what I have achieved. The increase in business speaks for itself."

"I am not a businessman, I am a window fitter by trade, from Bilston and have succeeded by doing the best job I can and being as honest and reliable as I can be," Dave adds.

"I try to install this work ethic into all of my staff. I have a great team around me now and I couldn't do this without



Wolves legend Steve Bull at the official opening

them. All I ask of my fitters is to do the job better than if they were doing it in their own home and this pays off as six out of 10 of the new jobs we do are for repeat customers or recommendations."

### Success

Steve Bull, former England and Wolves legend, opened the new showroom in July last year which was a massive success and since then the phone just hasn't stopped ringing.

They are doing 40-50 quotations per week and since the open day have completed almost 500 new installations ranging from orangeries to single windows or doors. January has been the best on record with a 50 per cent increase in business on January 2015.

DW Windows Ltd are now nearing the end of their first 10 years of trading and are looking forward to the next 10 years.

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## Collision closes Brettell Lane

A BLACK Country road was temporarily closed after a crash involving two cars near a busy junction.

Four people were treated at the scene following Saturday's smash on Delph Road in Brierley Hill.

Police closed the A461 Brettell Lane at around 5pm while they waited for the vehicles to be removed.

Firefighter Rob Fullwood, watch commander at Brierley Hill Fire Station, said: "There were two cars involved and four casualties. They were all out of the vehicles by the time we arrived so we didn't need to cut anyone free."

"The ambulance service checked them over one the side of the road and police closed one of the roads while they waited for the vehicles to be taken away."

## Jack's Minecraft museum



Jack Probert, aged 8, has created a Minecraft version of the Black Country Living Museum

AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD set himself the task of recreating the entire Black Country Living Museum using popular video game Minecraft.

Young Jack Probert cannot get enough of the region's premier heritage attraction and it has become favourite place for days out with the family.

He also has a passion for the game Minecraft, a virtual landscape allowing players to build anything they can imagine by placing blocks.

In the days following Christmas, with the museum closed to visitors, Jack decided he would build his own virtual replical museum as his latest Minecraft project.

Jack's father, Alan, said: "It is fair to say we go to the museum quite a bit – we only live 100 yards away as the crow flies. We took Jack there quite a few times last

## Burst water main causes traffic chaos

A BURST water main caused traffic chaos on a main road in the Black Country.

The A458 Park Road in Cradley was closed on Friday afternoon, forcing traffic and buses to be diverted.

The busy road, which connects Stourbridge and Halesowen, was shut between Colley Lane and Barrack Lane at around noon as emergency repairs were carried out to the water main and motorists were warned to expect delays.

Water could be seen flowing down the road three hours after the road was closed.

The closure saw traffic backing up in the area. The number 9 bus to Birmingham had to be diverted via Park Lane because of the leak.

It came as another burst water main caused problems near West Bromwich town centre. One lane of Trinity Way was closed near the junction with High Street at around 3pm.

# Paramedics not on board for thousands of emergency calls

**PARAMEDICS were not on board emergency vehicles sent to thousands of 999 calls across the Black Country during the past four years, figures reveal.**

Instead, ambulance technicians or emergency care assistants – both less qualified – attended.

Figures show that, in total, paramedics didn't attend 23,912 call-outs during the period.

This includes 86 'red 1' emergencies, the highest category for patients who have suffered cardiac arrest or who have stopped breathing.

West Midlands Ambulance Service, which is based in Brierley Hill, said it was 'fully committed' to achieving its ambition of having a paramedic on every emergency vehicle. Bosses have recently launched a recruitment drive to find 150 student paramedics to bolster numbers.

During the past 12 months, there were some 3,674 emergency call outs in the Black Country not attend by paramedics.

The ambulance service has defended the figures, saying these 23,912 call outs over four years make up just 1.8 per cent of the total call outs for crews across the region.

Spokesman Claire Brown said: "West Midlands Ambulance Service is the best performing ambulance service in the country, with all staff doing a fantastic job responding to an average of 3,000 emergency calls a day around the region."

"As a trust we have the highest ratio of paramedics on the frontline of any UK ambulance service and we are fully committed to achieving our ambition of having a paramedic on every emergency vehicle."

"All our staff are developed and trained to a high standard, which means we continue to provide the very best care to patients."

## Park concert to mark milestone

BIRMINGHAM band Ocean Colour Scene are marking the 20th anniversary of their best known album Moseley Shoals with a special open air concert in the city this summer.

Moseley Shoals in Moseley Park is planned for Friday, July 15.

It will see the band performing songs from the album including the major hit Riverboat Song.

Tickets for the concert are sale from the [www.moseleyfolk.co.uk](http://www.moseleyfolk.co.uk) website.

Ocean Colour Scene will be supported by Reverend and the Makers and The Sherlocks.

The band, whose members include Steve Cradock and Simon Fowler, formed in Moseley in 1989.

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## Tale of tat man staged

A THEATRE group from the Black Country will be putting on a story about the iconic figure of the 'tat man'.

The Life and Times of the Tat Man will be performed on February 13 at 7.30pm by company Black Country Touring at the Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton.

Set in a scrapyard, the play looks at the characters he meets on his rounds with horse and cart.

Tickets are £10 and £8 concessions.



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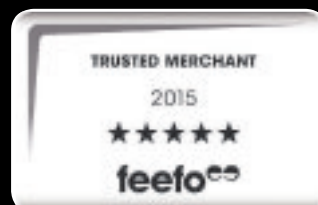
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# £7.6m fund for project to boost manufacturing skills

**THE Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has approved £7.6m funding for the flagship Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills, which will open for business in August 2017.**

The funding has been allocated through the LEP's Growth Deal which is transforming the Black Country.

The Elite Centre will function as an employer-led training facility for the Black Country, designed to improve productivity and growth in the high value manufacturing (HVM) sector.

## Behind the scenes tour at brewery

ALE fans can go behind the scenes at a landmark Black Country brewery when Holden's in Woodseton offers hour-long tours on the first Saturday of each month in April, May and June.

The tours begin from the Holden's bottle shop off Sedgley Road and finish with a session in Holden's new tasting room.

There are up to a dozen places on each tour and they cost £12.50 per person.

Tours were started after the completion of the modernisation of the brewery during its centenary year of 2015. Tours can be booked by calling 01902 880051.

The brewery's famous beers include Black Country Bitter, Black Country Special Bitter, Black Country Mild, and Golden Glow.

The family's career in brewing began with Edwin Holden and his wife Lucy Blanche.

The brewery also has a popular line of its own bottled beer.

The Black Country LEP has been instrumental in ensuring the project will deliver provision that doesn't currently exist in the Black Country.

The LEP has brought together partners from the HVM sector and education including the University of Wolverhampton, Dudley College, Confederation of British Metalforming, Cast Metals Federation and the Institute of Cast Metals Engineers.

### Specialist

The partners are investing an additional £4.15m into the centre bringing the total project value to £11.75m.

The Elite Centre project will be led by the University of Wolverhampton. The Elite Centre will follow a 'hub and spoke' model with equipment and facilities installed across four sites in the Black Country, which will re-generate two brownfield sites. The hub will be the 800 sq m regeneration of the university's Springfield Brewery site in Wolverhampton.

The 'foundry and patternmaking spoke' will be located on a site adjacent to an existing foundry in Dudley Port.

Metal joining and advanced machining training will be covered by the installation of new equipment and the use of existing equipment at the recently opened Dudley Advance at Dudley College.

## Pair chippie in to raise funds for girl's op



Georgia with mother Clare Gibbs with fundraisers Steve (left) and Archie Payton and Bunty Singh-Binning

A LITTLE girl with cerebral palsy is a step closer to a potentially life-changing operation thanks to help from fundraisers in the Black Country.

Born 11 weeks premature and weighing just 3lb 2oz, Georgie Gibbs was diagnosed with spastic diplegic cerebral palsy when a year old.

Now aged three, Georgie has to walk with splints attached to her legs or with a walking frame. She has daily exercises to relax her muscles.

Her family in Worcester is fundraising for an operation in America, which will cost around £65,000 and is aimed at helping Georgie walk unaided.

### Fryer

The Paytons, along with their local chippy Chipton Fryer & Cafe, on Bloomfield Road, Tipton, have raised more than £1,000.

The family is waiting to hear from officials at NHS England's Commis-

sioning through Evaluation Programme, to find out if Georgie can have the operation in the UK.

Georgie's mother Clare, 41, said: "We'll find out in March if we can go ahead with having the operation in this country, but if not we have an April 18 confirmed date for America."

Archie and Steve said Georgie had 'stolen their hearts'. Archie added: "We'll move heaven and earth to help that little girl."

To help visit [www.gofundme.com/help-georgie](http://www.gofundme.com/help-georgie)

## Hospitals to investigate genetic links

A PIONEERING project is being launched at Black Country hospitals, including Russells Hall, to identify genetic links in families that suffer from cancers and other diseases.

The £250 million '100,000 Genomes Project' was introduced by the Government in 2012, in an attempt to sequence 100,000 genomes from around 70,000 people.

It aims to look at DNA to effectively diagnose and route out the cause of diseases in families, as well as personalise the treatment given to them. Diseases and cancers are strongly linked to changes in the genome, a person's DNA.

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust are leading the project and work will take place at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley, as well as New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton and at Walsall Manor Hospital.

Charlotte Hitchcock, one of three genomic ambassadors for the project, said: "It is so important that we work to find out more about these diseases, to look at personalising medicine and create genetic medicine."

Ms Hitchcock is working closely with the lead clinician, Professor James Cotton, to implement the project and identify suitable participants.

Anyone chosen will have to give samples and allow the team access to their medical information.

## Talk on Zulu war that inspired an epic movie

THE Anglo-Zulu War will be the subject of the next meeting of the Amblecote History Society on Wednesday, February 10.

Historian Max Keen will give a talk at 7.30pm in The Lehr Theatre at the Ruskin Centre, with tales from the battles of Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift, as depicted in the epic 1964 film Zulu. Admission is £2 for non-members. For details visit [www.amblecotehistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.amblecotehistorysociety.org.uk)

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## Secrets of the Hoard at gallery

PEOPLE can find out more about the story of the Staffordshire Hoard in an interactive exhibition now on at Bilston Craft Gallery.

Treasure! Discovering the Staffordshire Hoard features high-quality replicas of objects in the Hoard, discovered near Walsall, showing how they might have looked when first crafted.

Visitors can also view a short film which includes an account of how it was found by metal detectorist Terry Herbert. Visitors can also try their hand at detecting metal, cleaning an artefact or don a costume to help bring Anglo-Saxon times to life.

Wolverhampton councillor John Reynolds, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for people to learn more about this amazing discovery and the history of the region. The Staffordshire Hoard is the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver metalwork ever found."

The exhibition is on display until March 12.

## Dudley Group NHS Trust has a new boss



New Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust boss Jenni Ord

A NEW chairman has been appointed at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

Jenni Ord, who was previously chairman of Health Education West Midlands, took over the role from David Badger, who stepped down on December 31.

She said: "I'm absolutely delighted to take on this new and exciting role at a trust where I believe great patient care and excellent services are delivered to the people of Dudley and the surrounding areas.

"The Trust has had an excellent year to date with fantastic performance in many areas and I look forward to ensuring this success continues and excels further in the future through working collaboratively and productively with our colleagues in health, social care and the voluntary sector."

A non-executive director, Julian Atkins, has also been appointed. Mr Atkins has succeeded David Bland as non-executive director and will be part of the Council of Governors' Strategy Committee.

He joined the Trust after retiring from his post as head of human resources at Coventry Building Society.

## College open to talks over Coseley School

DUDLEY College could be involved in the future of the Coseley School site if it was to close. College principal Lowell Williams has said the college would be 'pleased to enter discussions' over alternative uses for the site.

Parents have been infuriated by plans to shut the school, which has 528 pupils, and have launched a campaign and a petition to try to save it. A consultation has been launched but Dudley Council has revealed it could face a deficit of £1 million by August 2017 due to falling pupil numbers.

Mr Williams said the college had 'long-standing links' with Coseley and was considering what it could offer. He said: "The college has, informally, been asked to consider what support, if any, we could provide to the community if the school were to close. No detailed discussions have taken place. No plans, of any sort, have been drawn up. However, the college has clearly indicated its willingness to enter into such discussions."

# JW Hunt trophy is found new permanent home at Molineux

**A TROPHY that is part of the Black Country's football history will take pride of place at Molineux on a permanent basis.**

The JW Hunt Cup, of which Sir Jack Hayward was a big supporter, is held annually with its final at Molineux.

The trophy, contested for by local non-league football clubs, is being inducted at Wolves' home in its 90th year of existence. The competition originated in 1925 with a meeting at the Molineux Hotel, some 50 from the stadium.

Alex Hamil MBE, president of the Cup, the Wolverhampton Referees Association and the Wolverhampton Sunday Junior League, is delighted that the coveted piece of silverware now has an appropriate home.

"All of the memorabilia from 1926 is being inducted into the Steve Bull Stand at the Molineux," said Mr Hamil.

"There will be medals, cups, badges and photos going back almost a century.

"Those that play in the final have had dads, uncles and granddads that have played in the Hunt Cup. It's a

big thing for them to play at Molineux."

A total of £8,000 will be donated to Sedgley's Beacon Centre for the Blind, the competition's charity partner.

The cup, silver-plated and valued at £5,000 some years ago, is currently held by Tividale FC, who won last season's final in May.

Mr Hamil said: "Sir Jack said it was 'a part of Wolverhampton's history' and he was always interested in who had won. The late Jack Taylor, a former World Cup final referee, was our vice-president for 50 years."



Referee Phil Reade and JW Hunt Cup president Alex Hamil with the cup

## Aldi staffing boost in store

DISCOUNT supermarket Aldi is to create almost 350 jobs at its shops across the West Midlands.

Jobs are being advertised at more than 30 shops in the region as the chain continues to thrive.

The company is on the lookout for 135 store assistants, 90 stock assistants, 35 deputy store managers and 57 assistant managers. Two store managers are wanted while 25 caretaker roles are also available.

Aldi's presence is continuing to grow in the Black Country, with its latest supermarket opening on Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury. An Aldi store is being built on the site of the King Arthur pub on the Birmingham New Road at Dudley.

Jobs are also being advertised in Brierley Hill, Great Barr, Halesowen, Wednesbury and at the new branch in Oldbury.

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## It's a sign of the times in village

A NEW signpost pointing to places of interest is set to be installed in Sedgley.

The signpost will point people in the direction of important places around the town with arrows.

It will be erected outside the Iceland supermarket in the town centre and will be around seven feet high.

Sedgley councillors Michael Evans and Tina Westwood have organised the sign to be erected after they were approached with the idea by residents.

It will point to the Ladies Walk Clinic, and to Dormston School, Queen Victoria School and the town's public toilets.

Councillor Evans said: "I think it is a good idea. The principle of it is to help people find their way around the town."

The date for completion is not known yet as the sign is still being made.

## Church venue for ghost talk

A TALK about spooky goings-on in the Black Country will be held at a Sedgley church.

In Haunted Black Country, historian Ian Bott will reveal stories about ghostly sightings around the area.

It will take place at St Andrew's Church on Thursday, February 11, at 7.30pm.

The talk is a Sedgley Local History Society event, with admission free for members of the group and £1 for non-members.

## FOCUS ON SEDGLEY AND GORNAL

# Meeting to decide on the future of branch surgery

A PUBLIC meeting will be held later this month over the future of a GP practice in Lower Gornal

Residents are being invited to discuss the fate of Lower Gornal Medical Practice's Masfield Road surgery, which has been described as 'inefficient' and is being suggested for closure

The meeting is being hosted by NHS Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group's Primary Care Commissioning Committee at Himley Road Methodist Church, Gornal Wood, on February 19 from 1pm.

Patients have handed in a 316-strong petition objecting to the proposed closure.

### Cost

But there is concern that the surgery, which is about one mile from the GPs' main practice on Bull Street, is not cost effective.

Gornal ward Councillor Anne Millward said: "I'm aware they took over the Masfield Road branch a number of years ago and are now looking a consultation because it is not cost effective. I know a lot of people have said they use the branch. To open up the Masfield Road branch, they need a doctor from Bull Street, which affects the costs."

"It does serve the people of the Straits but they still

By Jamie Brassington

have to go to Gornal to get their prescriptions. It makes sense to have four or five doctors in one place with pharmacists close by.

"It is up to practice to work out what is best for patients but people are not going to be worse off with it closing."

The Primary Care Commissioning Committee make collective decisions about the budget for Dudley GP services.

They are responsible for the planning, developing, delivering, monitoring and managing of the funds.

The committee will be discussing the proposal to close the Lower Gornal surgery at the upcoming meeting. Commissioning group chairman, Steve Wellings, said: "At the meeting the GP practice will present the case for closure to the committee."



MEP and Councillor Bill Etheridge, third from right, with residents and the problem trees

## Overgrown trees will be tackled

RESIDENTS' concerns have finally been heard by Dudley Council, which is now planning to tackle towering trees that loom over houses in a Gornal street.

Branches and sap falling on vehicles, and roots cracking paths, are some of the issues which have annoyed residents in Harlech Way.

UKIP Euro MP Bill Etheridge looked at the problem during a visit and said he was delighted that action will now be taken, after receiving email confirmation from Dudley Council's tree officer that the authority will now be taking steps to maintain the trees after an inspection.

He said: "The work will consist of selective removal of species and the poisoning of the stumps. The residents have been fighting for years for action and now, finally, the council say they will address the problem. This issue has been going on for far too long now."

## Tickets in big demand for show

EXOTIC musical The King & I will be performed in Sedgley later this month after bumper ticket sales.

Based on the 1944 novel, Anna and the King of Siam by Margaret Landon, and made into a hit 1950s movie with Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr, the musical will be staged at The Mill Theatre, Dormston School, by the Phoenix Theatre Company.

Company chairman Richard Bourne, said: "In 2014 we brought the musical, Oliver to the stage and last year, following that huge success, we decided to stay with this wonderful theatre and bring South Pacific, which was even bigger. But The King & I has been quite incredible"

Tickets are £9 on Tuesday, February 23, with other performances £10 and £9 concessions. Email info@phoenixtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 897520.

## School sports hall fund bid

A SECONDARY school has launched a bid for Government funding to enable it to build a new sports hall.

High Arcal School in Sedgley has applied for a grant from the Government's Condition Improvement Fund and now face a two-month wait to see if the cash will be granted.

Schools minister Edward Timpson confirmed an application had been received from High Arcal School with a decision due by the end of March.

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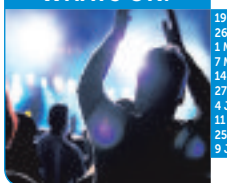
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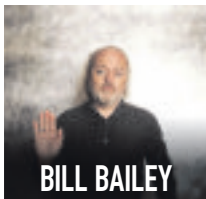
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## Alexander Armstrong



**Tomorrow, 7.30pm**  
**Symphony Hall, B'ham**  
The much-loved presenter of Pointless, Alexander Armstrong, is returning to his roots as a classically trained musician and is set to delight in his first concert tour.  
Visit [www.tthsh.co.uk](http://www.tthsh.co.uk)

## Of Mice And Men



**Tonight - February 13**  
**The Rep, B'ham**  
The acclaimed production of John Steinbeck's drama set during America's Great Depression, directed by Roxana Silbert, returns by popular demand, this time with a new cast.  
Visit [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk)

## Ken Dodd



**Sunday, 7pm**  
**Prince Of Wales, Cannock**  
A true British institution, Ken Dodd has been making people laugh for decades. His stand-up shows are the stuff of legend, often going on well past midnight.  
Visit [www.wlct.org/cannock](http://www.wlct.org/cannock)

## Private Lives



**Monday - Feb 13**  
**New Alexandra Theatre, B'ham**  
A revival of Noel Coward's sophisticated comedy stars Tom Chambers in the 1930s story about divorcees who meet on honeymoon with new spouses.  
Visit [www.atgtickets.com/venues/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham](http://www.atgtickets.com/venues/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham)

## POP & ROCK

### Special Kinda Madness: Specials & Madness Tribute Band

Sat at 8.55pm, £8  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. 01902 401211

### Nik Turner's New Space Ritual

Thu at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. 01902 401211

### SayWeCanFly

Sat at 6pm - 10pm,  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

### Loyle Carner

Tue at 7.30pm - 11pm,  
Hare & Hounds,  
Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Montparnasse

Sat at 8pm,  
mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

### Telegram

Thu at 7pm - 11pm,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Bowling For Soup

Sat at 8pm, £20  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

### The Style Councillors

Sat at 7pm,  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

### The Crookes

Fri at 7pm,  
The Rainbow, Birmingham,  
B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

### Soufly

Sun at 7pm,  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,  
WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

### The Game: Documentary 2 Tour

Mon at 7pm,  
O2 Academy Birmingham, 1  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

### The Temple Brothers: Everly Brothers Tribute

Sat at 7.30pm,  
Prince Of Wales Centre,  
Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

### Grouper

Fri at 9.30pm, Sat at  
9.30pm,  
The Jam House,  
Birmingham, B31QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

### Spring King

Thu at 7.30pm - 10.30pm,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Joe Jackson

Thu at 7pm - 11pm,  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

### Augustana

Sat at 7pm,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

### Jack Jones: A Celebration Of 100 Years Of Frank Sinatra

Fri at 7.30pm,  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

### Danny Bryant

Wed at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. 01902 401211

### U2 2:U2 Tribute

Fri at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. 01902 401211

### The Winery Dogs

Fri at 7pm - 11pm,  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
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## FOLK & ACOUSTIC

### Alexandra Jayne

Tue at 8.30pm,  
The Jam House,  
Birmingham, B31QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

### The Villagers

Sun at 7pm - 11.30pm,  
The Glee Club,  
Birmingham, B5 4TD.  
Call 0871 472 0400

## BLUES & JAZZ

### The Subs

Thu at 9.30pm,  
The Jam House, Birmingham,  
B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

### Jarrold Dickenson

Thu at 7.45pm - 11pm,  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

## CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

### CBSO 2015-16: Beethoven Piano Concertos

Wed at 2.15pm, £12.50 - £43  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

### Ex Cathedra: I Was Glad

Sun at 4pm - 6pm,  
£9.50 - £35  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

### Lunchtime Guitar Concert

Fri at 1.10pm,  
Birmingham Museum and Art  
Gallery,  
B3 3DH.  
Call 0121 303 1966

### Lunchtime Organ Concert:

#### Thomas Trotter

Mon at 1pm,  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

### Alexander Armstrong: A Year Of Songs

Fri at 7.30pm - 9.30pm,  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

### CBSO 2015-16 - Family Film Favourites

Sun at 2.30pm, £10  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

### BICS 2015/16 Maria Joao Pires In Recital

Thu at 7.30pm,  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

## THEATRE

### Horrible Histories: Groovy Greeks

Sat at 10.30am,  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,  
SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

### Out Of Chaos: Macbeth

Thu at 8pm,  
mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

### Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?

Tue - Thu at 7.30pm  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

### The Gruffalo's Child

Fri at 10.30am, 1.30pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

### Of Mice And Men

Thu at 8pm, 1.30pm, Sat at 2pm,  
7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at  
2pm, 7pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu  
at 2pm, 7.30pm, £8.50 - £35  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP.  
Call 0121 236 4455

### Freezin

Sat at 7.30pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

### Gary Clarke Company: Coal

Thu at 8pm - 10pm, £8 - £12  
DanceXchange, Birmingham,  
B5 4TB.  
Call 441902566159

### Jack And The Beanstalk

Fri at 11am, 3pm, Sat at  
1pm,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

### Private Lives

Mon - Thu at 7.30pm,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

### Simply The Best Divas

Sun at 7.30pm,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

### The Solid Life Of Sugar Water

Fri at 8pm, Sat at 2.30pm - 8pm,  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

### Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty

Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm,  
7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,  
£18.50 - £42.50  
Birmingham Hippodrome,  
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

### Birmingham Royal Ballet And Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Sat at 7.30pm,  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

### Motionhouse: Broken

Tue at 8pm, Wed at 8pm,  
mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

### An Inspector Calls

Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, £11.75 - £27.75  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

### Stags And Hens

Thu at 7.30pm,  
Prince Of Wales Centre,  
Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

### The Crows Plucked Your Sinews

Tue - Thu at 8pm  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

### Jersey Boys

Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, Thu at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,  
£27.50 - £49.50  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 573320

### Tantalise #Take2 - The Ultimate Ladies Night

Fri - Sat at 8pm - 3am,  
Quantum Centre, Birmingham,  
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

## COMEDY

### Juice Comedy

Fri at 7.30pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

### Ken Dodd

Sun at 7pm,  
Prince Of Wales Centre,  
Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

### Tony Law: Frillemorphosis

Thu at 7pm,  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,  
WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

### Gary Delaney

Sun at 8pm - 11pm,  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD.  
Call 0871 472 0400

## CLUBBING

### Nicolas Lutz & Francesco Del Garda

Sat - Sun at 10pm - 6am,  
The Rainbow, Birmingham,  
B12 0LD.  
Call 0121 753 1818

### Marcia Carr & E Double D

Sat - Sun at 9pm - 2am,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Vertigo

Sat at 9pm,  
The Victoria, Birmingham,  
B1 1BN. Call 0121 633 9439

### Keeping It Souful

Fri - Sat at 9pm - 2am, £  
The Victoria, Birmingham,  
B1 1BN. Call 0121 633 9439

### Propaganda

Fri - Sat at 10.30pm - 3.30am,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

### Highgrade

Fri - Sat at 10.30pm - 5am,  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

### Leftfoot Presents Mala At Hare And Hounds

Fri - Sat at 9pm - 3am,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Sweet

Sat - Sun at 9pm - 3am,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### Hospitality

Sat - Sun at 10pm - 6am,  
The Rainbow, Birmingham,  
B12 0LD.  
Call 0121 753 1818

## OTHER EVENTS

### Jewellery & Watch Birmingham

Sun - Thu at 9am - 4pm, Free  
The NEC, Birmingham,  
B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

### Spring Fair

Sun at 9am - 4pm, Free  
The NEC, Birmingham,  
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# The Jersey Boys are back in town

ONE of the West End's biggest hits of recent years, Jersey Boys, is at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, February 20.

Whilst still packing them into the Piccadilly Theatre in London, the touring production about the career of American pop group The Four Seasons, starring Matt Corner as Frankie Valli, is a surefire crowd-pleaser.

Full of Four Seasons hits from the golden era of pop in the 1960s and 70s, it also pulls no punches in its story about how a bunch of New Jersey boys who seemed destined to become crooks and gangsters took the music world by storm, but at some considerable personal cost.

## Worldwide

Sam Ferriday will play Bob Gaudio, Lewis Griffiths is Nick Massi and Stephen Webb is Tommy DeVito, all continuing in their roles from previous tour dates. Michael Pickering will join the cast to play the role of Frankie Valli at certain performances.

Also joining the touring cast will be Mark Heenehan as Gyp DeCarlo, Joel Elferink as Bob Crewe, Joe Maxwell as Norm Waxman and Samantha Hull as Francine.

Jersey Boys has been seen by more 22 million people worldwide and is firmly established as one of London's most popular shows. It was also turned into a movie by actor/director Clint Eastwood.

The Four Seasons sold 100 million records worldwide, all before they turned 30. The show includes all the



Sam Ferriday, Stephen Webb, Matt Corner and Lewis Griffiths in Jersey Boys

major hits, including Sherry, Walk Like A Man, December, 1963 (Oh What a Night), Big Girls Don't Cry, My Eyes Adored You, Beggin', Let's Hang On (To What We've Got), Bye Bye Baby, Can't Take My Eyes Off You, Working My Way Back To You, Rag Doll and Who Loves You.

Written by Marshall Brickman and Rick Ellice, Jersey Boys has won Olivier and Tony awards for Best New Musical, among 57 major awards worldwide.

See [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk) for further details or call the box office on 01902 429 212.

# Ballet gets a revamp-ire

A GOTHIC romance from the choreographer who created the male dancers' Swan Lake and passionate ballet The Car Man is set to thrill audiences at Birmingham Hippodrome from Tuesday to Saturday.

Danced to the music of Tchaikovsky, Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty takes the familiar fairy story and twists it into a dazzling whirl of punk fairies and vampires. It goes from the opulent Edwardian era to modern day, delivered with irreverent humour and lots of style and vigour.

Created for his New Adventures company's 25th birthday in 2012, Sleeping Beauty was a hit at the Hippodrome a year later and this revival comes to Birmingham after a successful run at London Sadler's Wells.

Returning to the central role of Aurora is rising star Ashley Shaw, a role shared with Cordelia Braithwaite in her first principal role with New Adventures. Her hero Leo will once again be played by Bromsgrove-born dancer Chris Trenfield and Dominic North, who has appeared in more New Adventures productions than any other dancer. North was nominated as Outstanding Male Dancer at The National Dance Awards for his performance as Edward Scissorhands.

The twin roles of Dark Fairy Carabosse and her sinister son Caradoc will be shared by two of New Adventures' most charismatic performers, Adam Maskell and Tom Clark, the latter making his debut in a principal role.

For more information see [www.birminghamhippodrome.com](http://www.birminghamhippodrome.com) or for tickets call 0844 338 5000.

## Dance highlights at Symphony Hall

THE Royal Ballet Sinfonia takes centre stage at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on Saturday in an evening celebrating classic balletic highlights.

Compered by Birmingham Royal Ballet's director David Bintley, the evening will include music and dance excerpts from some of the company's most famous productions, such as David Bintley's The Seasons, Frederick Ashton's The Dream, and Kenneth Macmillan's Romeo and Juliet. The latter is being performed at Birmingham Hippodrome later this month.

The evening will also include a performance by students from Birmingham's Elmhurst School for Dance. See [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

## All-star jazz band in Art Blakey tribute

MARKING the passing of jazz great Art Blakey 25 years ago, saxophonist Jean Toussaint brings his Roots and Herbs combo to celebrate and explore the music of the Blue Note legend and his Jazz Messengers.

The gig at Wolverhampton University's Arena venue tomorrow night (Fri) will feature an all-star line-up of trombonist Dennis Rollins, pianist Julian Joseph, trumpeter Byron Wallen, Daniel Casimir on bass and drummer Shane Forbes. See the arena@wlv.ac.uk website.

That's the same night veteran crooner Jack Jones performs his Jack Sings Frank tribute to Sinatra at the Symphony Hall.

## US rock invasion at city gig venues

GIG highlights include Nashville rockers The Cadillac Three at Digbeth's O2 Institute tonight (Thu), with metal super-group The Winery Dogs at the same venue tomorrow night.

Texan rockers Bowling For Soup play Brum's O2 Academy on Saturday. Arizona metal outfit Soufly are at Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms on Sunday. Mid-80s drummer with punk legends The Ramones, Richie Ramone, has a gig at the Robin 2 in Bilston on Monday.

London rapper Loyle Carner plays the Hare And Hounds in Kings Heath on Tuesday, the same night fuzz rockers Ulrika Spacek are in the other room.

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CHOICE



**John Inverdale**

**Live Six Nations Rugby Union (BBC1, 4.30pm)**

Scotland v England (Kick-off 4.50pm). John Inverdale is at Murrayfield to introduce coverage of the Calcutta Cup tie, as the rivals play their first match of this year's tournament. Scotland's record in this fixture in recent years is quite dismal, but this year they can enter the encounter with confidence following a much-improved showing at the 2015 World Cup and the undoubted progress made under coach Vern Cotter. England, in contrast, are starting over again following their early exit from that tournament, which resulted in Eddie Jones taking over as coach from Stuart Lancaster, and Jones has named an exciting, new-look squad captained by Dylan Hartley.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. France v Italy (Kick-off 2.25pm). **4.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v England (Kick-off 4.50pm). **6.55** BBC News. **7.05** Regional Programme. **7.15** The Voice UK. Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson appraise the talents of more would-be stars as the spinning-chair singing contest continues. As the fifth set of "blind auditions" gets under way, Vangelis from London performs a rendition of the Culture Club hit Do You Really Want to Hurt Me. The coaches also assess the talents of Mari Marli, who sings Will.i.am's own Bang Bang, and 19-year-old Durham busker Chloe Castro. Plus, four-time Britain's Strongest Woman winner Geirna Magnusson takes to the stage. **8.30** The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. New series. Shane Richie returns with the dream prize game show, giving more couples a chance to pick a selection of perfect rewards to make up their personal wish lists, all of which have a connection to their shared history together. The contest begins as Phil and Sian from Liverpool attempt to win their chosen items. Plus, Ronan Keating performs in the studio, and joins Gabby Roslin to push the button in the all-important Lotto and Thunderball draws. **9.20** Casualty. Ethan has managed to put aside his dissatisfaction with NHS restrictions, and is back in full swing in the ED. The development comes as welcome news for Lily, and the pair join forces to help a girl with autism get the family support she desperately needs. However, just as Ethan begins to settle back down to work, it appears his world is about to be shaken to its core. **10.10** BBC News; Weather. **10.30** Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents; National Lottery Update. **11.55** Race to Super Bowl 50. **12.25** Film: Man of the Year. (2006) **2.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.20** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.15** Film: Tension at Table Rock. (1956) **7.45** Film: The Red Beret. (1953) **9.10** Animal Park. (R) **10.10** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **11.10** Natural World. (R) **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.45** Rick Stein's India. (R) **1.45** Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman. (R) **2.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.30** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.25** Earth's Greatest Spectacles. (R) **6.25** Back in Time for the Weekend. The Ashby-Hawkins family give up their 21st century technology and travel back in time to discover the radical transformation of our leisure time since 1950. Guided by presenter Giles Coren and social historian Polly Russell, the family's experience is underpinned by The Family Expenditure Survey, a government study which ran from the 1950s through to 1999. In the first episode, dad Rob finds out that he's expected to be handy with a tool kit, while mum Steph comes to terms with all the washing, cooking and cleaning expected of a 1950s housewife. Meanwhile, 16-year-old Daisy learns ballroom dancing courtesy of Angela Rippon, and 12-year-old Seth discovers the great outdoors. (R) **7.25** King George and Queen Mary: The Royals Who Rescued the Monarchy. Part two of two. Queen Mary's rise to the throne from a comparatively low position within the royal hierarchy, after being selected for the role by Queen Victoria. (R) **8.25** Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring has too much to drink during a weekend course with Captain Square, but still manages to save Jonesy's life. (R) **9.00** The Real Marigold Hotel. The group settle into life in their base in Jaipur, India, as Wayne Sleep and Bobby George have a cut-throat shave and a trip to the Taj Mahal brings Miriam Margolyes to tears. (R) **10.00** Live at the Apollo. Romesh Ranganathan comperes an evening of stand-up at London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing himself and introducing routines by guests Jason Byrne and Stewart Francis. (R) **10.45** Insert Name Here. (R) **11.15** Film: Tim. (1979) **1.00** Film: My Afternoons with Margueritte. (2010) **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bear: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Jessie. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** TV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **1.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **2.25** Tipping Point. (R) **3.30** Doc Martin. (R) **4.30** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.15** ITV News; Weather. **6.30** New You've Been Framed! More comical mishaps, including a building crashing a luxury sports car and a tree that manages to topple a motorcyclist. **7.00** Ninja Warrior UK. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the second semi-final, challenging more returning contestants to face the infamous obstacle course once again. **8.00** Take Me Out. Paddy McGuinness provides four more potential suitors for his 30 single ladies. This time, the men braving the "love lift" are James, a commodities trader from Leeds, Leamington Spa student Ben, Manchester-based circus performer Josh and Ian, a digital developer from Portsmouth. As ever, the would-be Romeos must present themselves to female panel in the hope that they'll keep their lights on as a sign of approval. Plus, Paddy provides an update from last week's couples on the Isle of Fernandos. **9.20** The Jonathan Ross Show. The host subjects another batch of celebrity guests to no-holds-barred questioning. Plus, musical performances by A-list bands and solo artists. **10.20** ITV News; Weather. **10.40** Film: Jurassic Park III. (2001) Action adventure sequel, starring Sam Neill, William H Macy and Tea Leoni. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park, Ffos Las and Wetherby. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go to Ireland and travel along the Shannon Erne Waterway, a canal linking the North to the South. Along the way, they try some traditional dancing and folk singing, visit historic sites including Crom Castle and Bloody Pass, and meet a genealogist with a fascinating story to tell. Last in the series. (R) **8.00** Walking Through Time. Palaeontologist Dr Tori Herridge investigates the natural disaster that destroyed the massive chalk land-bridge that once connected Britain to continental Europe 450,000 years ago. Beginning her inquiries in Norfolk, she discovers what life was like before the ancient mega-flood, where she meets an amateur palaeontologist who uncovered the biggest mammoth skeleton ever found, and examines the 850,000-year-old footprints of an early human family perfectly preserved in prehistoric mud. She then travels to Kent and the white cliffs of Dover to detail how the mega-flood happened, joining an "oceanographic" expedition seeking to document evidence of this cataclysm found on the bed of the English Channel. **9.00** Film: Prisoners. (2013) Premiere. Police question a man in relation to the disappearance of two children, but can find no evidence of wrongdoing. However, the distraught father of one of the missing youngsters is not convinced of his innocence, and kidnaps the suspect to force him into a confession. Thriller, starring Hugh Jackman. **12.00** Film: Friday the 13th. (2009) **1.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **3.55** Undercover Boss Canada. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** The Saturday Show. **11.35** Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **3.00** Benefits, Babies & Jail. (R) **4.00** Benefits, Can't Work, Won't Work. (R) **5.00** Benefits: 19 Kids and Counting the Cost. (R) **6.00** Celebs on Benefits: Fame to Claim. Documentary following former Corrie star Bruce Jones (Les Battersby) and one-time Big Brother contestant Lisa Appleton, who have gone from signing autographs to signing on the dole. (R) **6.55** 5 News Weekend. **7.00** World War II in Colour. Examining Mussolini's decision to push Italy's forces into North Africa, and looking at the air and sea battles for control of the strategically vital Mediterranean island of Malta. (R) **8.00** America's Hidden Pyramid City: Ancient Mysteries. A team of experts uses cutting-edge technology to examine the history of an ancient Native American civilisation that built a metropolis in what is now Illinois. (R) **9.00** The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches from the Championship, which included Burnley v Hull City and Middlesbrough v Blackburn Rovers. **10.00** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present a round-up of all the goals and talking points from League One and League Two, as well as a look at the latest league tables. **10.30** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The detectives are forced to rely on an officer from another district when a rape victim refuses to talk to anyone but him, while introductions to the new ADA go badly. (R) **11.25** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. An ex-financier is questioned about the murder of his girlfriend – but the focus of the investigation gradually shifts to the CEO of a dating website. (R) **12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Celebrity Botched Up Bodies. (R) **4.00** Celebrity Big Brother: The Good, the Bad and the Outrageous. (R) **4.50** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**

**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **7.05** Don't Tell the Bride **8.05** Top Gear Vietnam Special **9.20** Film: Meet the Parents (2000) **11.05** Russell Howard's Good News **11.30** Family Guy **1.00** Russell Howard's Good News **1.30** Siblings **2.00** The Revolution Will be Televised **3.00** Far Right and Proud: Reggie Yates' Extreme Russia **4.00** Close **BBC Four**

**7.00** How Earth Made Us **8.00** Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken History **9.00** The Young Montalbano **10.45** Annabel's Nightclub: A String of Naked Lightbulbs **11.45** Je t'aime: The Story of Shirley Bassey with Petula Clark **12.45** Shirley Bassey at the BBC **1.45** Top of the Pops: 1981 **3.10** Sounds of the Eighties **3.55** Close **ITV2**

**1.10** Ninja Warrior UK **12.10** Scorpion **1.05** You've Been Framed! Gold Fuli Throttle **2.10** Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **4.00** Film: Beethoven (1992) **5.50** Celebrity Catchphrase **6.50** Film: The Mummy Returns (2001) **9.20** Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.20** The Keith Lemon Sketch Show **10.50** Film: Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (2008) **1.10** Beowulf: Return to the Sheldlands **2.10** Reality Bites **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Teleshopping **ITV3**

**1.50** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **4.00** Film: Columbo: It's All in the Game (1993) **6.05** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **12.05** Blue Murder **1.40** Man About the House **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**

**1.35** Film: No Name on the Bullet (1959) **3.10** Film: Dunkirk (1958) **6.00** Live FIA Formula E Championship: The Buenos Aires ePrix. **8.30** Storage Wars **9.00** Film: Escape from New York (1981) **11.05** Film: The Return (2006) **12.50** Film: Red Heat (1988) **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**

**3.05** The Goldbergs **4.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Bridesmaids (2011) **11.30** Gogglebox **1.35** Virtually Famous **2.20** The Inbetweeners **3.15** The IT Crowd **4.05** 2 Broke Girls **4.30** Rules of Engagement **5.15** Revenge **Film4**

**11.00** California Man (1992) **1.00** Horton Hears a Who! (2008) **2.40** Chocolat (2000) **5.00** City of Ember (2008) **6.45** Shallow Hal (2001) **9.00** Salt (2010) **10.55** ATM (2012)

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CHOICE



**Patrick Kielty's Mulholland Drive (BBC2, 10pm)**  
Patrick Kielty's journey to find the truth about William Mulholland, who was responsible for building Los Angeles' water infrastructure and providing a water supply that allowed the city to grow into one of the largest in the world. Patrick's family all worked for the water company in Northern Ireland and upon discovering that the man who gave LA its water was from Belfast, decided to find out why he isn't globally recognised.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.15** The Great Sport Relief Bake Off. (R) **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **5.35** Nature's Miracle Orphans. **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Ellie Harrison and Matt Baker explore Tyne and Wear, visiting a lighthouse currently being restored and a country park on the site of an old coal mine that is now home to a variety of wildlife and a cattle farm, as well as looking for glass smoothed by the tide in Seaham. Olympic boxer Nicola Adams reveals her favourite countryside destination. Adam Henson meets some of Suffolk's country breeds, and Tom Heap investigates Britain's flood defences. Including Weather For The Week Ahead. **8.00** Call the Midwife. Sister Julianne has an eye-opening experience on a maternity ward, and a young man from Poplar is accepted into university – but an unexpected development threatens his dreams. **9.00** War and Peace. Chas descends on Moscow as the French army attacks the city. The Rostovs realise they are in danger and flee for their lives. Natasha finds herself with an unexpected travelling companion, and sees a last chance to make amends. Sonya is asked by the countess to make a sacrifice for her family. Traumatized by his experiences on the battlefield, Pierre resolves to stay behind and fight the invaders, and as he struggles through a hard winter, the scenes of horror and kindness he witnesses change his outlook on life. Last in the series. **10.20** BBC News. **10.40** Regional Programme. **10.50** Match of the Day 2. Jason Mohammad reviews the day's Premier League action. **11.55** Film: In the Valley of Elah. (2007) Drama, starring Tommy Lee Jones, Charlize Theron and Susan Sarandon. **1.45** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.50** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.05** The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.50** The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.35** The Secret History of the British Garden. **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Best Bakes Ever. (R) **11.45** Race to Super Bowl 50. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Film: We Dive at Dawn. (1943) Second World War adventure, starring John Mills. **2.35** Film: None But the Brave. (1965) Second World War adventure, starring Frank Sinatra. **4.15** Cats v Dogs: Which Is Best? (R) **5.15** Hog It! (R) **6.15** Ski Sunday. Including action from the men's World Cup downhill competition in Jeongseon, South Korea, which is set to be one of the host venues at the 2018 Winter Olympics. **7.00** Six Nations Rugby Union. John Inverdale presents action from the opening round of the 2016 championship, featuring Scotland v England at Murrayfield, Ireland v Wales at the Aviva Stadium and France v Italy at the Stade de France. All of the nations were playing their first matches since last year's World Cup, with France and England aiming to impress under new coaches after disappointing in that tournament. With analysis by Keith Wood, Martyn Williams and Jeremy Guscott. **8.00** Greece with Simon Reeve. Part one of two. The presenter takes a tour of Greece, travelling from the islands of the Aegean to Athens and learning how the Greek people are coping with their country's crises. **9.00** James May's Cars of the People. James looks into some of the planned new directions in motoring that never caught on, driving an amphibious car and an electric scooter, and taking a ride in a driverless car. Last in the series. **10.00** Patrick Kielty's Mulholland Drive. A journey to find the truth about William Mulholland, who was responsible for building Los Angeles' water infrastructure and providing a water supply that allowed the city to grow. (R) **10.50** American Football: Super Bowl 50. Denver Broncos v Carolina Panthers (Kick-off 11.30pm). Live coverage of the 50th staging of the showpiece event. **3.30** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **4.30** Holby City. (R) **5.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bear: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** FIA Formula E Championship. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.20** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Off Their Rockers. (R) **1.00** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v Wales (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.15** Catchphrase. (R) **6.00** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.15** ITV News: Weather. **6.30** Planet's Got Talent. Featuring a human cannonball, a high-wire motorbike display, a whip-cracking cowboy, a death-defying acrobat and a performer who slices flying fruit. Narrated by Warwick Davis. **7.00** Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands. Slean's intended bride arrives in Herot, but his mind is elsewhere as he is torn between his loyalty to his mother and his own lust for power. **8.00** Vera. The detective investigates the discovery of a young man's body in an area notorious for illicit teenage gatherings, the corpse wrapped in plastic sheeting and having received a blow to the head. Vera follows the trail to a funeral where the victim used to work and a church where he sought refuge, having recently been made homeless. She delves into his family history to discover why he was on the streets when his parents lived nearby, while forensic evidence implicates the son of the vicar, who has a criminal past. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.15** Rookies. Documentary filmed over the course of a year following trainee police officers from the Lincolnshire force, charting their progress as they venture out onto the streets. (R) **11.15** Premiership Rugby Union. Mark Durden-Smith and David Flatman present action from the 11th round of fixtures. **12.10** Jackpot247. **3.00** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **2.35** Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. (2009) Comedy, starring Zachary Levi. **4.15** The Simpsons. (R) **4.45** The Simpsons. (R) **5.15** Channel 4 News. **5.35** Film: X-Men. (2000) Sci-fi comic-book adventure, starring Hugh Jackman. **7.30** The Jump. Davina McCall presents the second round of the celebrity winter sports challenge. The 11 remaining contestants compete in a Snow Cross event, with the losers of each race having to face a super-sized ski jump to determine which of them will be eliminated from the contest. **9.00** Deutschland 83. Moritz recuperates after the transplant, and decides to remain at home. However, both Annett and Schweppenstette are adamant that he must return to his assignment in the West. Alex Edel takes General Jackson hostage and forces him to denounce military plans in Western Europe. In German. **10.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Sean Lock and Izy Suttie compete against Jon Richardson and Richard Osman in the words-and-numbers quiz, while Alex Horne and the Horne Section help out in Dictionary Corner. (R) **11.05** Film: Alien 3. (1992) Officer Ripley is marooned on an all-male prison planet, where she again faces her extraterrestrial arch-enemy. Sci-fi thriller sequel, with Sigourney Weaver. **1.05** Embarrassing Bodies: Back to the Clinic. The doctors invite back some of their most memorable patients, including a woman who visited because of excess hair on her face and body. (R) **2.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. The property expert helps homeowners in Leeds, including a man struggling to sell his three-bedroom semi, and a woman whose dated bungalow is not attracting buyers. (R) **5.10** Deal or No Deal. Players try to beat the banker and guess the contents of mystery boxes, and could double their winnings with box 23 – if they are brave enough to buy it with what they have won. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Ticky Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Roodbarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.40** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.50** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.20** Jelly Jam. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.30** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.55** Film: My Favorite Martian. (1999) Sci-fi comedy, starring Christopher Lloyd. **3.40** Film: Three Men and a Little Lady. (1990) Comedy sequel, starring Tom Selleck. **5.35** 5 News Weekend. **5.40** Film: Little Nicky. (2000) Comedy fantasy, starring Adam Sandler. **7.25** Film: Zoolander. (2001) Dim male model Derek Zoolander is stunned to find his career going downhill thanks to the arrival of an equally vacuous rival – but fails to realise he is merely a pawn in a dangerous game of international espionage and world domination. Comedy, starring Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Will Ferrell, Mila Jovovich, Christine Taylor and David Duchovny. Edited for sexual content and language. **9.00** Film: The Internship. (2013) Premiere. Two old-fashioned salesmen find their careers derailed by changes in technology. They nevertheless manage to get internships at an internet company, but face a battle to come to terms with modern business methods, while competing against younger rivals. Comedy, starring Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson and Rose Byrne. **11.15** Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) A playboy media-mogul becomes a masked crime-fighter, with the help of his kung fu expert chauffeur. Comic-book adventure, starring Seth Rogen, Jay Chou and Cameron Diaz. **1.25** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** America's Hidden Pyramid City: Ancient Mysteries. The rise and fall of a Native American civilisation. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth **7.10** Great TV Mistakes **7.40** The Voice UK **9.00** Film: Meet the Fockers (2004) **10.50** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.15** Family Guy **12.35** Cuckoo **3.25** Cuckoo Christmas Special **4.00** Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Montalbano and Me: Andrea Camilleri **7.50** Britain's Wild Places **8.00** Russia's Lost Princesses **9.00** Film: Pato (2015) **10.30** History of the Eagles **12.30** TutanKhamun: The Truth Uncovered **1.30** Rock 'n' Roll America **2.30** Sounds of the Eighties **2.55** Totally British: 70s Rock 'n' Roll **3.55** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.35** Take Me Out **12.55** Take Me Out – The Gossip **2.00** Grease: Live **4.55** Minion Madness **5.10** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **7.00** Film: Legally Blonde (2001) **9.00** Ibiza Weekend **10.00** Film: American Pie: The Wedding (2003) **11.55** Film: Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008) **2.00** Planet's Funniest Animals **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**11.25** Film: Columbo: It's All in the Game (1993) **1.30** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **2.45** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **3.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.55** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Bargain Round Britain with John Sergeant **9.00** Caroline Quentin's National Parks **10.00** Mrs Bings **11.30** Film: Hamlet (1990) **2.05** Film: Tili Death Us Do Part (1969) **3.45** Heartbeat **5.25** Judge Judy  
**ITV4**  
**1.35** Counting Cars **2.25** The Classic Car Show **3.30** Film: No Name on the Bullet (1959) **5.10** Film: Dunkirk (1958) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Nighthawks (1981) **11.05** Film: Apocalypse Now (1979) **2.05** Ax Men **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**2.30** Film: School of Rock (2003) **4.45** Ride (ish) Tube Shorts **5.00** The Goldbears **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Tattoo Fixers **11.00** Ride Tube **12.05** The Inbetweeners **1.15** The IT Crowd **2.15** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.00** Don't Trust the B\*\*\*\* in Apartment 23  
**Film4**  
**11.00** Destination Gobi (1953) **1.00** Step Up (2006) **3.15** Bugsy Malone (1976) **5.05** First Daughter (2004) **7.15** Airplane! (1980) **9.00** Patriot Games (1992) **11.15** Under Siege 2: Dark Territory (1995)

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**MONDAY**  
**Hannibal, Channel 5, 10.55pm**  
 Fugitive serial killer Dr Hannibal Lecter has gone into hiding as an academic in Italy, but a disfigured victim is determined to find him and inflict a gruesome revenge. Ridley Scott's thriller sequel, starring Anthony Hopkins, Julianne Moore and Ray Liotta. (2001)

**A Surrogate's Terror, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A college student agrees to be a surrogate mother for a wealthy couple in return for her tuition fees being paid, only for the prospective parents to die in a car crash. Drama, starring Cassie Steele. (2014)

**Michael Clayton, BBC1, 11.45pm**  
A troubled attorney takes over a high-profile case when a colleague suffers a nervous breakdown and threatens to blow the whistle on corporate corruption. However, as he tries to limit the damage, he uncovers damning proof that will expose a secret group of conspirators – who are prepared to commit murder to keep the evidence buried. Legal thriller, starring George Clooney and Tom Wilkinson. (2007)



**Michael Clayton, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.45pm**

**Guilty at 17, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A teenager believes her friend when she lies about being sexually harassed by a teacher, and falsely claims to have witnessed an incident. When the accused teacher commits suicide, she is consumed with guilt and begins to suspect she has been deceived. Crime drama, starring Erin Sanders and Alex Paxton-Beesley. (2014)

**Evil Under the Sun, ITV, 11.15pm**  
Hercule Poirot braves the heat and sand to investigate the murder of a glamorous stage star on an idyllic Adriatic holiday island. It becomes clear many people had reason to want the temperamental actress dead and the Belgian sleuth is soon hard at work figuring out which of her enemies eventually managed to kill her. Mystery, with Peter Ustinov, Diana Rigg, James Mason, Maggie Smith and Jane Birkin. (1982)

**I**t could be a case for Mulder and Scully – whatever happened to the top-rated sci-fi series and its characters when it went off air for 14 years? Thankfully, we're about to find out because *The X-Files* is back.

Even the most die-hard of fans (and let's face it, there were plenty of those around during the show's original run, from 1993 to 2002) never thought they'd get to see their heroes in action again, and have been almost beside themselves with glee at the prospect

Not that bringing back much-loved cult series is a rarity these days. Doctor Who made a triumphant return, nine years after he last featured in the lacklustre 1996 film, while *Twin Peaks* is set to appear on our screens in 2017 following a 26-year hiatus.

Both David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson have agreed to reprise their roles as FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully – it just wouldn't have been the same without them.

Both stars have enjoyed success in various projects following the end of

the original series, with Anderson particularly familiar to UK viewers thanks to her appearance on TV in the likes of *The Fall*, *Great Expectations*, *The Crimson Petal and the White*, and the recent adaptation of *War and Peace*.

They will be joined by various other original run alumni, including Mitch Pileggi as the FBI's assistance director Walter Skinner, and William B Davis, who plays the enigmatic Smoking Man.

What surprised many is that Channel 5 outbid other broadcasters to grab the right to show the six-part run. "Securing the UK premiere of the hugely anticipated return of *The X-Files* is a major coup for the channel and will create one of the television events of 2016," said Ben Frow, director of programmes at Channel 5. "This acquisition underlines our ambition to deliver a diverse slate of brilliant, must-see programming on Channel 5."

So far, feedback has been very good. Okay, so some critics have been unkind, but fans – and they are the ones who are important here –

have given it an overwhelming thumbs-up.

What's more, the first episode features a recap that will be invaluable to casual viewers, or those who didn't watch the original run or either of its spin-off movies. After that, it's the monster-of-the-week approach that takes centre stage as Mulder and Scully get to grips with more intrigue and conspiracy.

When we meet them again, the duo have been living separate lives for years – she at a medical practice, him ploughing his own furrow. They are brought back together by a cable TV host who wants them to help him expose a sinister organisation he believes has the power to control the American public.

Channel 5 is also broadcasting *The X-Files: Reopened* immediately before the first edition, enabling fans to see behind-the-scenes footage of Duchovny and Anderson in action with the show's creator, Chris Carter.

Will the programme's return whet our appetite for more? Probably – the question is, will it ever be satiated?

**Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking**  
BBC2, 8.30pm

The Great British Bake Off judge prepares a selection of dishes perfect for outdoor entertaining and lazy summer days, beginning with a whole seabass with lime and dill butter. Mary then meets experts Jules and Nick to have a go at catching crayfish in the waters of Oxfordshire, before using the crustaceans in an oriental vegetable salad. She then demonstrates simple recipes for lamb burgers with mint mayo, and smoked Texan chicken wings, and finishes with refreshing lemon and elderflower jellies.

**Royal Navy Sailor School**  
Channel 4. 9pm

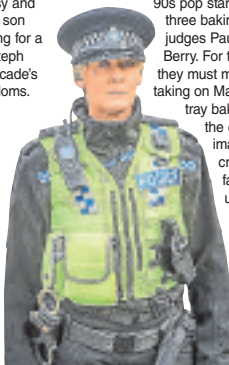
New series. Documentary following two classes of new Royal Navy recruits as they start their training at HMS Raleigh in Torpoint, Cornwall. In the first episode, a fresh intake arrives at HMS Raleigh to begin 10 weeks of training, the first two of which can make or break their career. Exhaustion and homesickness leave teenager Harland questioning if this life is really for him, while the eldest member Craig Rowan (32) sees this as his last chance to make something of himself and his instructors think he might be leadership material.

**Back in Time for the Weekend**  
BBC2, 8pm

The Ashby-Hawkins family sample life in the 1960s and with more money to go around, there's more fun to be had, including a trip to the seaside, a Dansette record player for 16-year-old Daisy and even their own Mini to enjoy. Dad Rob and son Seth take on football legend Trevor Brooking for a game of Subuteo, and Daisy and mum Steph meet Sandie Shaw to discover how the decade's daring fashions reflected the growing freedoms.

Happy Valley  
BBC1, 9pm

The last time we saw Sgt Catherine Cawood, she was feeling pretty good about catching her nemesis, Tommy Lee Royce, the man she holds responsible for her daughter's suicide. You would think, then, that she would be cheerier when we catch up with her again, almost two years later. However, Catherine is the sort of woman who carries the world on her shoulders – besides which, she's about to make a very grisly discovery, one that makes her colleagues wonder if a serial killer is on the loose.



Happy Valley. Tuesday. BBC1. 9pm

**The Great Sport Relief Bake Off**  
BBC1, 8pm

Ed Byrne takes on the role of host as ex-Spice Girl Geri Horner, BBC World Affairs editor John Simpson, footballer and pundit Jermaine Jenas and 90s pop star Louise Redknapp face three baking-related tasks set by judges Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry. For the signature challenge, they must make savoury tarts, before taking on Mary's chocolate and beetroot tray bake in the technical. Finally, the celebrities must use their imagination as they attempt to create 3D models of their favourite sporting moments using biscuits.

**THURSDAY**  
Jericho  
ITV, 9pm

Charles arranges for stone to be quarried from a nearby site, and panic sets in for Annie and Johnny when they

discover it is where the bodies of Happy Jack and Red are buried. The townsfolk are outraged at the thought of their old foreman's body being moved and rally round his widow Hatty, but she is won over by the promise of a decent headstone for his new grave, so Johnny takes charge of the exhumation, hoping he can prevent Red's body being discovered. Meanwhile, Isabella tells Charles she wants to be his wife in every sense, but when housemaid Epiphany lets something slip about her past, no one is prepared for the consequences.

**FRIDAY**  
**Mr Selfridge**  
**ITV, 9pm**

Reeling from the bad publicity after the assault on the stage, Harry finds himself forced to admit the true state of his financial affairs when DaNonca piles on more pressure, and later finds himself embroiled in a costly spat with media magnate Lord Wynnstap. Mr Grove and Miss Mardle plan their very special forthcoming event, and Meryl enlists Tilly's help for a very important task – fuelling Miss Ellis' ire in the process. Mae and Victor grow closer, leaving Jimmy to become increasingly jealous. Drama, starring Jeremy Piven, Katherine Kelly, Amanda Abbington and Tom Goodman-Hill.

**Chief Bake Off** discover it is where the bodies of Happy Jack and Red are buried. The townsfolk are outraged at the thought of their old foreman's body being moved

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A close-up photograph of a dog's face, specifically a Jack Russell Terrier, looking through a pair of large, black binoculars. The dog's tongue is visible, and it appears to be smiling. The binoculars are held up to its eyes, and the dog's head is tilted slightly upwards. The background is plain white.



BRAIN GYM No.363

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

10 12 22 8 23 21 7 15 11

15 3 15 16 21 9 19

25 4 19 17 9 3 22 24 2 9 3

3 14 7 26 11 11

21 9 10 9 3 19 11 9 24 4 15

24 13 2 22 1

1 9 19 21 16 1 18 22 21 13 19 2

21 21 18 23 9

16 19 16 19 2 2 L 4 5 22 4 7

15 3 26 15 O 15 15

8 12 22 19 2 3 17 9 20 19 20

22 24 9 26 22 2 9 23

19 11 9 21 23 13 19 21 12

1 14

2 L 15 O

3 16

4 17

5 18

6 19

7 20

8 21

9 22

10 23

11 24

12 25

13 26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

O C Z T V N P U D Y E G M

X Q I L A F K W J B R S H

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

- Across
- 1. They show you what you can get with money (4-7)
  - 9. She's always cut short (3)
  - 10. The local newspaper made him redundant (4-5)
  - 11. Silas is out to be of use to a ropemaker (5)
  - 13. One object in rent is investment (7)
  - 14. Their function is to secure quiet in class (6)
  - 16. Government upsets the emigre (6)
  - 18. Number return with piece of writing for broadcasting? (7)
  - 19. Horse stepped very softly out (5)
  - 20. Scramble at the pig's food (9)
  - 21. A tie in an archery contest? (3)
  - 22. Get straight an argument with privileges (3,2,6)
- Down
- 2. Weed-killer (3)
  - 3. Floral plate design (5)
  - 4. In part of a hospital - mental, perhaps (6)
  - 5. Refuse to go through all the cases? (7)
  - 6. One result of juicy pickings (5,4)
  - 7. A deep malady (3-8)
  - 8. Put on to paper, Chinese style? (7,4)
  - 12. Hardly the speed at which a tramp will walk! (5,4)
  - 15. He foresees a hold-up over the reform (7)
  - 17. He might make a streak on the ice (6)
  - 19. A weapon attached to a rifle, perhaps (5)
  - 21. Part - of the bridle? (3)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 10

11 12 13

14 15 16 17

18 19

20 21

22

Quick Clues:

- Across
- 1. Golden mean (5,6)
  - 9. Wand (3)
  - 10. Gazette (9)
  - 11. Horrify (5)
  - 13. Shyness (7)
  - 14. Regular (6)
  - 16. Fasten (6)
  - 18. Personal (7)
  - 19. Broaden (5)
  - 20. Get rid of (9)
  - 21. Unity (3)
  - 22. Enterprise (11)
- Down
- 2. Help (3)
  - 3. Punitive (5)
  - 4. Grass-cutters (6)
  - 5. Put (7)
  - 6. Advantage (5,4)
  - 7. Sister's grandson (5-6)
  - 8. Sceptic (11)
  - 12. Utter ruin (9)
  - 15. Greed (7)
  - 17. Leave (6)
  - 19. Destroy (5)
  - 21. Possess (3)

Sudoku

8 1 6 2

3 1 7 3 9 8

4 5 5 4 2 9

2 4 2 9 6

1 6 5 9 8 3

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Back; 3 Theatres; 9 Adorned; 10 Quote; 11 Discountable; 13 Strive; 15 Unson; 17 Counteragent; 20 Olive; 21 Accused; 22 Eighteen; 23 Play. Down: 1 Brandish; 2 Cross; 4 Hiding; 5 Acquaintance; 6 Rootless; 7 Slew; 8 Inconvenient; 12 Unitedly; 14 Roofing; 16 Menace; 18 Ease; 19 Bore. QUICK - Across: 1 Pick; 3 Sorcerer; 9 Ordinal; 10 Nasal; 11 In the interim; 13 Impale; 15 Speech; 17 Congratulate; 20 Ashen; 21 Founded; 22 Fatherly; 23 Reed. Down: 1 Prolific; 2 Cadet; 4 Oblong; 5 Contemptuous; 6 Respite; 7 Rule; 8 Intelligence; 12 Shielded; 14 Prophet; 16 Lawful; 18 Adde; 19 Wait.

Thinking space

Quiz

- 1. In which country is the state of Uttar Pradesh?
- 2. Who directed the film Jules et Jim?
- 3. What sort of animal is a tarpon?
- 4. What nationality is the avant-garde composer Karlheinz Stockhausen?
- 5. Which physicist discovered alpha, beta and gamma rays?
- 6. What is the capital of Haiti?
- 7. Which king constructed the Hanging Gardens of Babylon?
- 8. In which century did the poet John Milton live?
- 9. What is the symbol used for the element magnesium?
- 10. In which year did the actor Steve McQueen die?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Thermos; 2 The Marshall Plan; 3 Tennessee; 4 Actress; 5 The helmet; 6 Mace; 7 Telescope; 8 Miles Davis; 9 Kurt Waldheim; 10 1856.

Niner: INCURABLE

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1225 gives an animal,  
324 gives a vegetable,  
9548762 gives a mineral.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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Tempting tower – pollo saltimbocca

# Forget new flavour of Pringles this is something to really get excited about

**I GET excited very easily. I get excited when a new flavour of Pringles is unveiled**

But when I found out that there is an Italian restaurant within walking distance of my flat – a long walk, admittedly – I got very excited. Taxi, take me to Fiume!

Fiume is in a lovely little spot. A canal-side restaurant in Compton spread over two floors. It's clean, bright, in a location that cries out for summer lunches in the sun, and staffed by an attentive team who make a fuss of you as soon as you arrive.

Your meal is soundtrack by a mixture of opera and mambo, set at a volume that does not intrude but instead actually rather soothes. So all we need now is some decent nosh and it is, as the saying goes, all gravy. Not literally all gravy, that would be a bit boring.

I must confess that I had decided that I

**Pete Cashmore tucks in**

liked Fiume even before I arrived. I absolutely adore Italian grub at any time, I'd live on it if I could, and when you have two of my favourite things – seafood and calzone pizzas – combined and thrown into the mix, then really, you're onto a winner.

**Portions**

Even better, they do something that I love in my Italians – they offer starter-sized portions of pasta to get the ball rolling, meaning you can, in theory, do pasta and pizza together and still come away not feeling like the Goodyear airship.

So that is what I resolved to do, go for the diddy-sized (although there was nothing especially diddy about it) spaghetti carbonara, and then that calzone. Elsewhere in the table, my fellow diners, codenames 'Mum'

and 'Dad', went for crespella di funghi, Italian crepe stuffed with mushrooms, followed by pollo saltimbocca, chicken wrapped in parma ham with mash, and calamari followed by linguine with a duck ragu, respectively.

I'm not one for competitive eating, but I like to think that I 'won' this meal. It really was a rip-snorter. Spaghetti carbonara is a dish that can often go wrong – it can be too creamy, it can be too eggy, it can contain rosey ham, all factors which can ruin what should be an indulgent dish.

No such worries at Fiume. Chunky pancetta, tart parmesan, just the right amount of creaminess and egginess.

The calzone did exactly what I expected of it. I believe I spotted prawn, squid and octopus in there. It was terrific fun to wrestle with. Elsewhere on the table my father pronounced himself thrilled with the calamari,

which came in a monster portion of great big rubbery rings and looked great, but seemed merely satisfied with his pasta – I didn't grill him on it excessively because he took about half an hour to polish it off and to ask him to talk would have exacerbated this process.

**Delightful**

Mother, meanwhile, seemed more than happy with both starter and main. A couple of coffees for the parents while I polished off another bottle of beer, and an entirely delightful eat-up was in the bag for £74, which is not too shabby.

Fiume really have got everything right – the attractive location, the attention levels of the staff, which is warm and just the right amount of fussy, and a menu that offers a wide choice.

I'd go back there in a heartbeat.

## commercial feature

# Celebrate chef's award with spicy special offer



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Award-winning head chef Abdul Ahad receiving his award alongside staff at Shenapur restaurant

**Abdul Ahad is more used to creating and serving up plates of mouthwatering dishes for diners as head chef of the Shenapur restaurant in Hagley, but recently Abdul received a very special plate of his own.**

Abdul won Regional Chef Of The Year in the Curry Life Chef Awards 2015.

Abdul's food is celebrated and loved by all who are lucky enough to experience it.

Specialising in traditional sub con-

tinental cuisine, predominantly from Bangladesh, Abdul follows a simple formula of high quality, masterfully spiced food, cooked fresh to order.

The Shenapur, which has a contemporary yet informal interior, has been serving up the finest Indian Cuisine in Hagley for more than 19 years and has become one of the most popular destinations in the West Midlands for Indian food lovers but Abdul's skills and creativity have raised the bar still further since his appointment as head chef earlier in the year.

Abdul has devoted 35 years to his craft, building on his knowledge and self-taught creativity.

He particularly loves cooking with fish and Shenapur's menu reflects this, offering monkfish, salmon, sea bass and lobster which is bought fresh and cooked Bangladeshi style.

Other signature dishes include meltingly tender lamb shank, tandoori chicken norotoba cooked with minced meat herbs and spices and tellapia bhuna, a traditional Bengal fish dish.

Shenapur's proprietor Angur Ali said: 'Abdul is very keen to demonstrate his unique culinary skills, flexibility and passion for Indian cooking and he and his team are happy to style any dish to suit your personal taste.'

'So if you are a regular diner with us, or are considering visiting for the first time to experience unforgettable food served up in an informal and friendly atmosphere, there has never been a better time to join us with a 10 per cent reduction against the cost of your meal on production of our advertisement.'

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**£245,000**



**SEDGLEY, 'Algar Grange', Off Dudley Road**

RARE OPPORTUNITY! Exciting development of 11 plots under construction by the Woodbourne Group of gas centrally heated & double glazed detached BUNGALOWS/dormer bungalows within walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring & all associated amenities. Three designs available with prices from £218,500 up to £264,500, and First Phase scheduled for early April. SAP: T.B.A. Further details with Agents Sedgley Office.

**PRICES FROM £218,500**



**PENSNETT, Fernhurst Drive**

A STUNNING MODERN THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME upon this highly sought after development, offering a very generous and beautifully improved layout, plus a good size driveway, GARAGE and a pleasant patio/ lawned garden. EPC TBA

**No upward chain**

**£189,950**



**SEDGLEY, Northway**

TREMENDOUS VALUE. Superb, gas centrally heated double glazed semi detached presented in exemplary order upon favoured development comprising; entrance hallway, walk in store (with potential) 21'4" through living/dining room, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, vestibule with further store, three generous bedrooms (one with fitted units), shower room (former bathroom). Garage, garden. EPC C. SEDGLEY.

**New price**

**WAS £149,950, NOW £145,950**



**KINGSWINFORM, Sandhurst Road**

A BEAUTIFULLY ALTERED & IMPROVED SEMI DETACHED HOME upon highly sought after 'High Acres', offering an impressively spacious and attractively appointed/presented layout with TWO SUPERB DOUBLE BEDROOMS, plus driveway, GARAGE and a landscaped garden. EPC C

**£144,950**



**COSELEY, Maslin Drive, Hurst Hill**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached bungalow in quiet secluded location. Accommodation includes; entrance hallway, living/dining room, kitchen, TWO BEDROOMS, shower room. Driveway & parking, brick garage, garden. SEDGLEY EPC: D.

**Offers in the region of £143,000**



**NETHERTON, Halesowen Road**

This TRADITIONAL, SEMI-DETACHED HOME comprises: Porch, Spacious Hall, TWO LOVELY RECEPTION ROOMS, WELL FITTED Kitchen, THREE GENEROUS BEDROOMS, Family Bathroom, Large Block Paved Driveway, Garage and Pleasant Front & Rear Gardens. EPC: C

**£129,950**



**QUARRY BANK, White City Road**

This SPACIOUS & EXTENDED, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOME incorporates a UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED & GAS CENTRALLY HEATED LAYOUT & comprises: Hall, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, Extended Kitchen, Guests W.C., Three Bedrooms, Bathroom & Large Garden. EPC:E

**£114,950**



**SEDGLEY, Sandyfields Road**

A most conveniently situated UPVC double glazed GROUND FLOOR FLAT within reasonable distance of so many day to day amenities, bus route, country park etc. Requiring some sympathetic updating the accommodation includes entrance vestibule, lounge, kitchen, inner hallway, TWO BEDROOMS, bathroom. Allocated garden, GARAGE - short lease. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY.

**Offers in the region of £105,000**





**LOWER GORNAL, Sandstone Close**  
**SCANDANAVIAN STYLE.** Gas centrally heated, double glazed detached family home constructed to first quality specification & in exemplary order. Designed to match adjacent property with minimal energy/running costs the accommodation includes; hall, cloakroom, lounge, 19ft 'hub of the house' dining kitchen, garden room. Three bedrooms, bathroom, garden, **GARAGE** (rear), additional parking. **EPC: C. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £185,950



**WALL HEATH, Brook Street**  
Overlooking fields, this **SEMI-DETACHED TRADITIONAL HOUSE** is outwardly deceptive of its size, having: Hall, Lounge 13'x13', Dining room 13'x12', feature 16' Kitchen, Utility, Elegant Bathroom, Two large Bedrooms plus Hobby/loft. Forecourt Parking and Gardens with **SUNNY DISTANT VIEWS.**  
**EPC: TBA**

£174,950



**COSELEY, The Paddock**  
**NO UPWARD CHAIN.** A gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed detached offering potential having delightful lengthy/sheltered rear garden, and situated in favoured district overlooking cricket pitch briefly comprising; entrance vestibule, spacious hall, lounge, dining kitchen, three generous bedrooms (one with wardrobes), bathroom, Garage, lengthy garden. **E.P.C. T.B.A. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £155,000



**LOWER GORNAL, Elan Close**  
**EXTENDED,** Freehold, part gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached within walking distance of 'Five ways'. Offering potential the accommodation provides; hall, cloakroom, storage cupboards, lounge, magnificent refitted 'hub of the house' kitchen with granite work surfaces/ island unit/integrated appliances, large laundry room. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Garden, solar panel hot water. **EPC:C. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £135,000



**LOWER GORNAL, Sandstone Close**  
Exceptionally well presented residence situated in this well sought after area of Lower Gornal with **OPEN ASPECT VIEWS** to rear. This family home, ideal for first-time buyers benefits from living room, kitchen-diner, **THREE BEDROOMS,** bathroom, central heating, double glazing, rear garden and drive to front. Viewing essential to fully appreciate this fantastic property.  
**EPC: D. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £134,950



**LOWER GORNAL, Redstone Way**  
Stylish, comparatively spacious, gas centrally heated & double glazed intermediate "starter home" in quiet cul-de-sac in favoured/convenient district. comprising; 17'3" (max.) lounge, breakfast kitchen with various integrated appliances, rear vestibule, fitted cloakroom. **TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS,** bathroom with white suite. Sheltered rear garden landscaped to ensure low maintenance & allocated parking. **EPC: C. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £129,950



**DUDLEY, Heath Green, Old Park Farm**  
This modern intermediate townhouse property is situated in the popular Greens estate. An ideal **FIRST TIME BUYER** opportunity, it benefits from entrance hallway, modern fitted kitchen, living room, **TWO BEDROOMS,** fitted bathroom, centrally heated and double glazed, enclosed rear garden, drive to front. **NO UPWARD CHAIN.** **EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY**

Offers in the region of £94,950



**DUDLEY, New Rowley Road**  
This Spacious, **PERIOD STYLE, TWO BEDROOM, MID TERRACE HOME** briefly comprises: Hall, **TWO RECEPTION ROOMS,** Kitchen, Two Double First Floor Bedrooms, Large Four Piece Bathroom, Garden. **NO UPWARD CHAIN!** Attention **BUY-TO-LET INVESTORS.** **EPC D**

£75,950

## DEVELOPMENT PLOT

**DUDLEY, Land adj to 78 Old Park Road**  
Planning consent secured to construct a three storey three bedroom detached dwelling of approximately 144 square metres (excluding garage) in well established residential neighbourhood. Planning application T12/1063  
Viewing arrangements and further details with agents Sedgley Office.

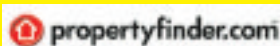
ASKING PRICE: £50,000





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**DUDLEY**  
Russells Hall Road

**NEW**

A semi detached three bed house on the popular Russells Hall Estate with off road parking. Partially double glazed, central heating. The entrance hall has stairs to the first floor with doors off to: lounge with dining area, fitted kitchen (with access to rear garden). The first floor landing has an airing cupboard with doors off to three bedrooms and a house bathroom/WC. Outside the property there is a paved area beside the drive, access to the side and rear of the property, where there is a brick outbuilding, patio area and terraced lawn area. Freehold, no leasehold.

**£125,000**

**NETHERTON**  
Quayside Walk

**NEW**

A very well presented modern first floor two bed apartment with stunning views over the canal. A short drive to the Merry Hill centre and walking distance of Netherton. Having double glazing and electric heating, with a spacious entrance hall leading to lounge with fitted kitchen off, two good sized double bedrooms, master with en-suite shower/WC off, and a house bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Off road allocated parking, views to rear (see pictures). Leasehold, no upward chain, available to view now. EPC - C

**£104,950**

**DUDLEY**  
Norman Street

**NEW**

A traditional, mid terrace house within walking distance of the park and shops. Double glazed, centrally heated, accommodation over three floors - kitchen, utility and bathroom/WC - basement, two reception rooms - ground floor, two double bedrooms - first floor. Patio and garden with separate access to rear. Available fully furnished, EPC - D - no upward chain.

**£87,000**

**TIVIDALE**  
Aston Road

**NEW**

A beautifully presented, extended modernised semi-detached family home in this popular location. Having off-road parking for the front for two vehicles. With entrance hall with stairs to first floor and door to: Spacious through lounge/diner, modern fitted kitchen. Upstairs there is a double room to the front, and two further double bedrooms off the landing, with a shower/WC centrally. To the rear there are steps to the paved patio area and further steps to a lawned area. Freehold - viewing is highly recommended. EPC - B

**£142,500**

**WEDNESBURY**  
Burs Drive

**FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY**  
••• A modern ground floor apartment offered as a 50% share. This well presented two bedroom home must be viewed. With fitted kitchen, open plan lounge/diner, bathroom and parking. EPC - TBC

**£45,000**

**DUDLEY**  
Langstone Road

A very well presented and spacious semi-detached home in a popular area of Dudley. Having an entrance porch, open plan lounge, dining room with fireplace and a fitted kitchen with appliances. To the first floor are two double bedrooms, family bathroom, staircase to attic currently used as a bedroom. Outside is a driveway leading to a carport and detached garage, also having lawned gardens to the front and rear. No Upward chain. EPC - D

**£117,500**

**GORNAL**  
Goodrich Mews

**NEW PRICE**

A very well presented and well planned corner-terrace style property having a spacious entrance hall, guest WC, lounge, KITCHEN DINER with fitted appliances, first floor landing, master bedroom with ENSUITE, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and a garage. VIEWING IS A MUST! EPC - B

**£139,995**

**TIPTON**  
Jubilee Road

**NEW PRICE**

TRINITY PROPERTY are pleased to offer for sale a versatile and EXTENDED spacious home. Having an entrance porch, guest WC, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, spacious conservatory, MULT-USE room/ garage/ workshop, master bedroom with walk in wardrobe and ENSUITE, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, SECURE off road parking and front and rear gardens. The property comes with security cameras and SOLAR PANELS. EPC - D

**£174,995**

**BRIERLEY HILL**  
Bent Street

**NEW PRICE**

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY to purchase an unique traditional style DETACHED property with YARD and GARAGE/ WORKSHOP. Having TWO bedrooms, two reception rooms and an EXTENDED kitchen leading onto a YARD giving possibilities for business use (subject to planning). Located close to the MERRY HILL Shopping Centre, this property, previously used as a coal merchants and having NO UPWARD CHAIN, is well worth viewing! EPC - F

**£179,950**

**NETHERTON, DUDLEY**  
Purlin Wharf

**LET**

A modern, semi-detached family home on the popular Purlin Wharf - canal-side development. Having a drive and garden to the front. Double glazed with central heating. Downstairs vc. Large lounge, modern dining kitchen with integral oven/hob and free standing fridge/freezer, with patio doors leading to the rear garden. Ensuite shower/WC off the master bedroom. There is also a house bathroom/WC. To the rear there is a patio area, lawn and access to the front of the property. EPC - B, unfurnished.

**£675 PCM & Fees**

**Dudley**  
Pages Croft

**TO LET**

A modern two bedroom third floor apartment on popular Priory Park development. Lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, two bedrooms, bathroom. Double glazing, allocated parking and secure entry. Available to view now. No DSS, no pets. EPC - B

**£535 PCM & Fees**

**NETHERTON**  
St Johns Road

**NEW**

A modern, two bed second floor apartment with lounge, fitted kitchen, two good-sized bedrooms and bathroom with shower over the bath. Unfurnished, no pets. No Dss. Available to let from 27th Feb 2016. EPC on order

**£455 PCM & Fees**

**Gornal Wood**  
New Street

**NEW PRICE**

A character property in the popular Gornal Wood - a two bed semi-detached house with double glazing and central heating, having a good-sized lounge with feature fireplace, a fitted kitchen/diner, upstairs there are two good sized bedrooms - one single and one double. House bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Off road parking outside (not allocated), side alley leading to patio/yard to the rear with shed. Unfurnished, no pets, no DSS. Available now EPC - E

**£500 PCM & Fees**

**DUDLEY**  
Cosyll Gardens

**LET**

A modern three bedroom semi-detached house located near to Dudley town centre with lounge, fitted kitchen & dining area. There are two double bedrooms and a further single with bathroom located on the first floor. Single garage with driveway and rear garden. No DSS and no pets. Available now to view. EPC - C

**£595 PCM & Fees**

**Bilston**  
Evergreen Close

**NEW**

Nicely presented one bedroom back to back mews house with garden and parking to the front. Located in cul de sac. Has open plan lounge with fitted kitchen to include all white goods, bathroom on the 1st floor with shower over bath. Bedroom has large fitted wardrobes. Double glazing. Council tax band A. No Dss. No pets. Available now to view. EPC - D

**£475 PCM & Fees**

**DUDLEY**  
Priory Street

**NEW**

A modern one bedroom ground floor flat in Dudley town centre. Lounge, kitchen, bathroom with shower. One double bedroom. Unfurnished and available now. No pets. Dss considered with guarantor. EPC to follow

**£320 PCM & Fees**

**BRIERLEY HILL**  
Station Road

**TO LET**

Double room to rent. Suit a 25+ working female, shared lounges, kitchen and bathroom. Cat lover ideal. Landlord on site. Room located within a three bedroom mid terrace house. The rent includes all bills - gas, water, tv licence, council tax and broadband. EPC - F

**£280 PCM & Fees**

**DUDLEY**  
Southgate Way

**TO LET**

Modern two bedroom apartment (within walking distance of Dudley Town). Open plan lounge with fitted kitchen to include integrated oven and hob. Has bathroom with one double and one single bedroom. The property is unfurnished, No Dss. No pets. EPC - C

**£485 PCM & Fees**

**Dudley**  
Pebworth Close

**NEW**

A three bed semi-detached house in a cul-de-sac location, having double glazing and electric storage heating. With a lounge, good-sized dining kitchen, three bedrooms (two with built-in wardrobes) and a house bathroom with shower over the bath. Garden to rear, with off road parking to the front, garage to the rear (not suitable for vehicles). No DSS. Small pets. Unfurnished EPC - D

**£535 PCM & Fees**

**Dudley**  
Ednam Road

**TO LET**

A fantastic opportunity to acquire newly converted stylish one bedroom apartment in this refurbished block. 1st & 2nd Floor Apartments available Now. Conveniently located in the town centre. Modern fitted kitchen and lounge area completed to a high standard, viewings are recommended to appreciate these spacious apartments. Stylish bathrooms, Central heating. No Dss. No pets. EPC - C

**From £450 PCM & Fees**

**DUDLEY**  
Priory Road

**NEW**

Two bedroom first floor apartment, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, separate utility room, separate WC, bathroom with shower, off road parking. EPC - E

**£400 PCM & Fees**

**BILSTON**  
Bank Street

**NEW**

A modern, one bedroom apartment with modern electric heating (very efficient) and double glazing. Lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Excellent location for commuting, good transport links, shops nearby. Off road parking, unfurnished, no DSS, no pets. EPC - C

**£375 PCM & Fees**

**DUDLEY**  
High Street

**TO LET**

Modern one Bedroom 2nd floor apartment. Has open plan lounge and kitchen. Bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Modern fitted kitchen, includes integrated oven and hob a. Gas central heating. May consider DSS with good references and working guarantor. EPC - B

**£370 PCM & Fees**

**Dudley**  
Dingle Close

**NEW**

Located in the popular Oakham area. This WELL PRESENTED three bedroom semi detached house is a MUST VIEW. Briefly comprising: entrance hall, lounge, dining room, modern fitted kitchen and family bathroom to the first floor. Outside the property has a good sized rear garden, driveway to the front and a garage. No DSS or pets. EPC - D

**£575 PCM & Fees**



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# Car is good for tax bills!

By Ian Donaldson

**BUYING most of BMW's range involved a healthy dose of heart as well as head – they are mostly cars aimed at people who love driving.**

Well, here's one that might make you phone your accountant before signing on the dotted line. He might then tell you to choose a different model.

The big X5 is now available with an electric motor to assist the petrol engine and save a bit of fuel in the right circumstances. It will cost. But it might not, and you would then be better off buying the diesel, which costs only £215 more, goes faster and might actually save you money on longer journeys.

But here's where the accountant comes in; because the new X5 puts out such tiny

amounts of tailpipe emissions in the official tests it qualifies for zero road tax and – more important for all the business people who fancy one – there's a £2,711 saving in benefit in kind each year.

Annoyingly, the emissions are a tiny bit too high (by a measly 2g/km) for the car to dodge the London congestion charge and the same minute tailpipe excess means the car does not qualify for a government plug-in car grant, which would lop £5,000 off the price now and £2,500 off from March, when the rules tighten.

This hybrid X5 costs £52,105 for the SE or £56,705 for the M Sport version on test.

Topping a dead battery to full takes less than four hours from a domestic plug, about an hour less if you have a BMW Wallbox installed. The car can then be ordered to mix petrol and current in the most economical way, save all its battery for later or combine the two power sources for maximum urge.

Of which there is plenty. And so back to the heart; where you find a car that looks precisely like the diesel equivalent with some modestly different badging and a flap in a front wing where you plug in the charging lead.

Even lumbered with the extra weight of a bigish battery (which robs the boot of a little room under the floor and means you can't have this X5 with a third row of seats) this is a car that flies when you prod both power sources into action – less than six seconds to 60 is brisk in anyone's book.

Driven like that, you'll exhaust the battery in minutes. With a little restraint you can drive up to 40mph-ish on flat roads on electrical power alone and get somewhere like the 19 miles a full charge can offer.

BMW reckons 80 per cent of journeys with an X5 are less than 19 miles (station



**For all the business people who fancy one – there's a £2,711 saving in benefit-in-kind each year**

car park and back, anyone?) and used like that your travelling expenses will be negligible.

With commendable honesty, BMW then adds that a 40 mile daily round trip should return up to 47mpg, but stray into longer distance territory (125 miles and up) and economy tumbles to 27mpg.

That's more economical than the petrol X5 with similar performance, says its maker; perhaps missing the point that the 3.0 litre diesel would do better. Which is why buyers go for it, of course. In petrol-focused China and the States the argument

for the X5 hybrid makes more compelling sense.

It remains a decent drive in any case; a car built seemingly from a piece of solid steel, so tough does it feel. It's big, but you soon learn not to fear multi-storey car park ramps and Waitrose parking bays; sitting tall helps here.

Standard spec is generous, with full leather trim, xenon headlights, metallic paint, fine sat nav, big alloys, cruise, powered tailgate and parking sensors front and rear. As ever, there are options galore to tempt you to spend a bit more.

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Part Exchange  
To Clear

**£995**



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EXPRESSION**  
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Full Renault  
History

**£2,295**



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1.0 VVT-i**  
3 door, Silver,  
27,209 miles

**£3,295**



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SPORT**  
3 door, Silver,  
88,725 miles,  
Full Service  
History

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i30 1.6 CRDi  
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5 door Estate,  
Silver, Fantastic  
Example!!

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TDi**  
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72,558 miles,  
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Road Tax

**£4,295**



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**2010/10  
CITROEN C3  
PICASSO 1.6  
HDi 8V VTR +**  
5 door, Blue,  
49,785 miles

**£4,995**



**2014/14  
FORD KA 1.2  
EDGE**  
3 door, Red,  
25,264 miles,  
£30 a year  
Road Tax!!

**£4,995**



**2008/08  
FORD FOCUS  
1.6 TITANIUM**  
5 door, Silver,  
38,692 miles,  
Full Service  
History

**£4,995**



**FIAT 500  
1.2 LOUNGE  
(START/STOP)**  
3 door, Red,  
25, 287 miles,  
Fantastic Car!!

**£5,695**



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| <p>09/09 Audi A4 2.0 TDI Diesel 143 SE<br/>Sdr Multitronic Auto Estate, 88k, Black, Alloys, Digital Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£9495 / £49 Per Week</b></p>                   | <p>05/55 Vauxhall Zafira 1.9 CDTi Club Diesel [120]<br/>Sdr 7 Seater, 50k miles, White, Alloys, Air Con, CD, Player<br/><b>£4495 / £23 Per Week</b></p>                       |
| <p>09/59 Toyota Auris 1.6 V-Matic TR Automatic<br/>*ONLY 3002 MILES* Grey, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£6995 / £36 Per Week</b></p>                                    | <p>07/56 Vauxhall Vectra 3.0 V6 CDTi Elite Automatic<br/>82k, Grey, Sat-Nav, Tan Leather, Alloys, Air Con, Heated Seats, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£3995 / £23 Per Week</b></p>    |
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| <p>08/08 Jaguar X-Type 2.2D S Diesel<br/>4dr Automatic, 59k, Blue, Alloys, Half Cream Leather, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£6995 / £36 Per Week</b></p>                        | <p>04/04 Mercedes C220 CDI Diesel SE<br/>3dr Automatic Coupe, 77k, Silver, Panoramic Roof, Alloys, Grey Leather, CD, Air-Con, E/Windows<br/><b>£3995 / £23 Per Week</b></p>   |
| <p>09/59 Mini Cooper 1.6 D Diesel<br/>52k, Black with Chequered Roof, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£6995 / £36 Per Week</b></p>   | <p>04/54 Toyota Rav 4.2.0 XT4<br/>Sdr, *ONE OWNER plus supplying dealer*, 93k, Silver, Alloys, Black Leather, Air Con, CD, E/Windows, FSH<br/><b>£3995 / £23 Per Week</b></p> |
| <p>12/12 Skoda Fabia 1.6 TDI CR SE<br/>Sdr Diesel Estate *£220 ROAD TAX** Average 67 MPG! 42k, Red, Alloys, Air-Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£6495 / £34 Per Week</b></p>           | <p>08/08 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Diesel Edge<br/>Sdr (140) Automatic, 118k, Blue, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£3695 / £20 Per Week</b></p>                                     |
| <p>09/09 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec<br/>3dr, ONLY 26k MILES, Red Metallic, Alloys, Air Con, CD, Heated ft screen<br/><b>£6295 / £32 Per Week</b></p>                                 | <p>08/58 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec TD Diesel<br/>5 dr, 99k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£3695 / £20 Per Week</b></p>   |
| <p>03/53 Mercedes CLS500 Automatic Coupe<br/>95k, Silver, Alloys, Black Leather, Sat-Nav, Air Con, CD, BOSE Sound System, E/Windows<br/><b>£5995 / £65 Per Week</b></p>          | <p>07/07 Hyundai Getz 1.1 CDX<br/>ONLY 18k miles, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows<br/><b>£2995 / £16 Per Week</b></p>   |

Finance example: 05/05 Nissan X-trail 2.2 dCi, Cash Price £3495, Deposit 300, Amount of credit £3195, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% Apr, 60 Payments of £69.90 (£16.13 per week) Total amount payable £4793.44 (Includes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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## DRIVETIME



## New venue for major show

**The Mobility Roadshow incorporating Get Going Live! says its 2016 event will be held from May 26 to 28 at the Silverstone Circuit, Northamptonshire.**

Organised by charity Mobility Choice, the free-to-attend show is Europe's leading consumer-focused event for people of any age living with restricted mobility. Since 1983, this international show has delivered opportunity and choice to disabled and older people with mobility needs. Get Going Live! is a test-drive feature that focuses on young and novice disabled drivers and opens up a new world of driving opportunities for future generations.

The 2016 event will take place for the first time at Silverstone, home to

The British Grand Prix and at the heart of international motor sport. A remarkable experience awaits in a location full of British motor racing heritage: UK and international visitors will have the unique opportunity to test drive adapted and wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVS) around the iconic Silverstone circuit. In addition there will be the chance to see and compare a wide range of products for independent living such as wheelchairs, scooters, trikes, hoists, and ramps as well as access to information and expert advice.

The Mobility Roadshow will be an unmissable 'hands on' opportunity for drivers with disabilities, passengers who use wheelchairs, and solutions for older non-disabled drivers to continue to drive safely for longer. The show also provides opportunities for young

and novice drivers with disabilities who are keen to explore all available options for accessible motoring.

Ann Frye, chair of Mobility Choice, said: "We are delighted to be holding the Mobility Roadshow at Silverstone for the first time. In response to visitor feedback, we have chosen this magnificent venue with space to expand the range and choice of mobility products from around the world as well as giving visitors the opportunity to drive on the famous race circuit."

"Maintaining the show's focus on independent mobility for everyone, we are working again with NFE Group to deliver an event that we believe will enable anyone with mobility difficulties to find solutions to meet their individual needs."

[www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk](http://www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk)

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# Smooth cat is stylish, sleek and fuel-efficient

By John Griffiths

It's a challenge to design a 'clean sheet' new car that is better than its predecessor but still screams out the heritage and core values of its makers.

But that is the new Jaguar XF – sleek and sporty style that couldn't really be anything else but a 'Big Cat' with more than a hint of its flagship big brother, the XJ.

Yet it isn't all about show or brand identity, as under the skin it is entirely new, packed with the latest technology to make it a daunting prospect for its premium brand German rivals. The new XF has grace and pace: coupe looks but with a bigger, more luxurious interior with the latest in high tech toys to keep you entertained and in touch.

It is based around the latest Wolverhampton-built Ingenium turbo diesel engine which produces plenty of power while significantly cutting fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, potentially saving its owners thousands of pounds in VED and benefit-in-kind tax.

With new, slipperier aerodynamics and aluminium architecture replacing the old steel construction – the XF has shed some 190kgs – the figures are impressive. With the lowest powered (163PS) engine and manual gearbox they are more than 70mpg and a mere 104g/km – much more super-mini territory than executive express. Even the 180PS option with eight speed auto transmission the figures are an average 65.7mpg and a lowly 114g/km. Those compare with 129g/km for the old car, so the tax advantages are obvious.

With competitive insurance ratings and new measures to cut the cost of repairs, the XF now goes to the top of its class when it comes to benefit in kind tax, residual values and whole life costs.

I love design when form and function come together in perfect harmony. While the new XF has much more sporting lines, that's true of its behaviour, too.

## Weight

The basis of its improved dynamics start with its lighter weight of its aluminium structure, which is also 25 per cent stiffer so that steering and suspension work to the optimum.

Plus it's slightly shorter – not by much, admittedly – but that's combined with a longer wheelbase and significantly shorter front overhang. While that helps to improve handling, and enhancing the XF's coupe-like good looks, it also allowed the engineers to build a car with more generous levels of head, knee and legroom for rear seat passengers.

At the same time, they have endowed the braking system with more pedal feel for the driver, and upgraded the suspension system.

The range starts at £32,300 for the 163PS manual, while the extra power of the 180PS engine starts costs £500 extra, model for model.

For those who want even more go there are two V6 range toppers – a 300PS turbo diesel and a 380PS petrol, both of which only come with the ZF eight-speed auto gearbox.

The test car was the 180PS automatic in top specification Portfolio trim, which comes in at £39,050.

From the moment you sit down in the big soft leather seats it feels every inch a Jaguar. You're surrounded by soft, stitched leather and wood venees, chrome switch gear and a simplified cockpit layout thanks to central colour touch-screen and digital instrument display.

It pulls away smoothly and in virtual silence, but once you reach the open road you get some measure of the XF's pace. It's 180 horses isn't massively powerful by executive car standards, but you have to factor in its light weight to get some measure of how the car performs.


The Portfolio spec car is packed with the latest safety equipment including stability and traction control, hill start assist, autonomous emergency braking, trailer stability control, rear parking sensors, brake pad wear warning and multiple airbags. Climate control, electric windows and a surround sound stereo system add to the standard package.

It also has Jaguar's latest 'InControl' touch screen navigation system with Wifi. Imagine, for example, you're heading for an appointment in a strange city – the system will given you a choice of potential parking spots in the vicinity and, once parked, switches seamlessly to your smartphone to guide you to your final destination.

The Jaguar's digital instruments are extremely clear and easy to read in all lights, but I confess I find myself increasingly seduced by the 'head up display' in cars. Jaguar charges an extra £1,220 for its laser-operated 'HUD' but for me it's money well spent. Having your actual speed, the current speed limit and block diagrams of the next junction displayed in clear symbols in front of you is a really boost for safety and convenience when navigating unfamiliar territory.


The new XF is arguably one of the most sleek and stylish or the executive saloons. With the major changes under the skin, it's also now one of the most cost-efficient of the breed, too.






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| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 70PS JAM Arden Blue, 3,656 miles                | £8695 |
| 2014/64 | VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2i GLAM 3 door, PANORAMIC ROOF White, low mileage | £9495 |

### Vauxhall Antara Selection

|         |  |        |
|---------|--|--------|
| 2012/61 | VAUXHALL ANTARA 2.4i 16V 167PS EXCLUSIV 5 door, Black, 38,697 miles      | £9750  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL ANTARA 2.2 EXCLUSIVE CDTi 5 door, White, 30,000 miles           | £9995  |
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### Vauxhall Astra Selection

|         |  |        |
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| 2007/57 | VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 1.8 AUTOMATIC 26,000 miles, Beige            | £3995  |
| 2007/07 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 DIESEL ENERGY Grey, 44,000 miles                | £4350  |
| 2007/07 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SXi TWINPORT 5 door, Black, 36,902 miles        | £4995  |
| 2010/60 | VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIVE 1.4i ESTATE grey 50,000 miles             | £6650  |
| 2011/61 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 EXCITE 5 door, Silver 23,000 miles              | £7495  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTi SRI 5 door, White, 43,000 miles            | £7995  |
| 2012/62 | VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ACTIVE 5 door, White, 22,000 miles              | £8495  |
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| 2004/04 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5 door, Red, 39,000 miles                     | £2995  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXi AC 5 door, Green, 16,080 miles                | £5995  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 ACTIVE 45,000 miles                               | £6495  |
| 2013/13 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 ENERGY AC Pepperdust Metallic, 16,496 miles       | £6995  |
| 2014/63 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 DESIGN AUTOMATIC Grey, 21,000 miles               | £7495  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LIMITED EDITION 3 door, White, 20,195 miles       | £7995  |
| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL CORSA LIMITED EDITION 3 door, White, 11,400 miles           | £8995  |
| 2010/10 | VAUXHALL CORSA 1.6 VXR 3 door, Blue, 26,908 miles                    | £9495  |
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| 2015/15 | VAUXHALL CORSA SRI 1.4 3 door, White, 4,000 miles    | £10995 |
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### Vauxhall Mokka Selection

|         |   |        |
|---------|---|--------|
| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 115PS 5 door Hatchback, St/Sp, Blue, 18,737 miles | £11495 |
| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi TECH LINE Blue, 36,000 miles                          | £12450 |
| 2012/62 | VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi SE 130PS 5 door Hatchback, White, 15,000 miles        | £13995 |
| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi SE White, 18,000 miles                                | £13995 |

### Vauxhall Meriva and Zafira Selection

|         |  |        |
|---------|--|--------|
| 2008/08 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 SRI MPV Blue, 59,000 miles                 | £4995  |
| 2011/60 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6i 16V EXCLUSIV 5 door, Silver, 39,891 miles | £5995  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN Silver, 36,000 miles                | £7995  |
| 2012/12 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.7 CDTi EXCLUSIV Silver, 55,000 miles         | £7995  |
| 2014/14 | VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 TECHLINE Black, 5,489 miles                | £9495  |
| 2013/63 | VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0CDTi SE White, 24, 000 miles                | £12650 |

### Vauxhall Vectra

|         |  |       |
|---------|--|-------|
| 2005/05 | VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 BREEZE 5 door, Blue, Only 57,000 miles, Air Con and Alloys | £1995 |
|---------|--|-------|

### Other Makes

|         |   |        |
|---------|---|--------|
| 2002/02 | RENAULT MEGANE CABRIOLET 1.6 Silver, 52,000 miles                                     | £2495  |
| 2007/07 | RENAULT CLIO CAMPUS Black, 44,000 miles   | £2650  |
| 2005/05 | MGF SUNSTORM Silver, 75,000 miles, IMMACULATE   | £2995  |
| 2001/51 | SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 Silver, 88,000 miles, One Lady Owner From New                 | £2995  |
| 2005/05 | VW BEETLE 1.6 CABRIOLET 3 door, Blue, 55,500 miles                                    | £3995  |
| 2010/60 | RENAULT GRAND MODUS 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE 5 door, 23,500 miles, Blue                      | £5350  |
| 2011/61 | RENAULT WIND 1.2 TCE GT LINE 2 door, Blue, 45,386 miles                               | £5495  |
| 2012/62 | FIAT 500 LOUNGE RHD 3 door, Red, 21,000 miles   | £6495  |
| 2013/63 | SKODA FABIA 1.6 TDi CR 105BHP MONTE CARLO SPECIAL EDITION 5 door, White, 31,100 miles | £7650  |
| 2007/07 | CHRYSLER CROSSFIRE 3.2 AUTOMATIC CONVERTIBLE 65,000 miles                             | £7995  |
| 2012/12 | MINI 1.6 CLUBMAN D ESTATE Silver, 28,432 miles  | £8995  |
| 2012/62 | NISSAN JUKE 1.6 ACENTA PREMIUM 5 door, Grey, 17,769 miles                             | £9995  |
| 2012/62 | TOYOTA RAV 4 2.2 D-4D XT-R 5 door, Metallic Red, WITH REVERSE CAMERA, 31000miles      | £14750 |

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# Adventure with the advancing Avensis

By Sharon Walters

Car manufacturers make a fairly big song and dance of claiming how they take notice of what buyers of their cars want when they upgrade. They canvass brand loyalty customers and trumpet their findings. And generally they do incorporate major concerns which they see as an improvement to their products – obviously taking into account cost.

Toyota go one further and not only talk to buyers who have crossed the threshold of their showrooms but also drivers of other cars as well. The Japanese firm did this with the latest Avensis and appear to have listened well and used the information to make what was a good product even better.

And what is good news for the UK is the car is made at Toyota's long-established plant near Derby – as have more than 1,711 Avensis across four generations that have appeared on European roads since the original was launched in late 1997. Plus the car was designed and engineered at Toyota's European development centre. Japanese by name but not by nature.

This latest version saw a new style, new engines and some pretty innovative technology. Toyota has always been known for quality, durability and reliability and that has been continued and further improved upon.

Avensis has appealed to both private and the fleet/business market but the latter has always taken the lion's share. Both revealed they wanted prestige, luxury and elegance and they have certainly got it. Saloon and tourer were targeted with five main areas of improvement:

- Styling
- Sensory quality and comfort
- Safety
- Equipment and value for money
- Driving pleasure and running costs

Avensis has two diesel engines at the heart of its range: a 1.6 unit and a 2.0-litre. I drove the 2.0 litre Tourer which, if you are a business user, produces 124g/km giving an initial 22 per cent BIK rate. You also get more than 68mpg in an extra urban driving cycle according to claimed figures by Toyota. I didn't quite achieve that. But on one of my regular visits north of the border I did get fairly close. Not to be sniffed at in a 408 mile journey combining motorways (and hold-ups), city and rural driving. It positively soaked up the motorway driving with little cabin noise intrusion and a smooth ride, as indeed it was on the winding country roads.

## Quality

Inside the cabin is well laid out and high quality with very comfortable seats and an excellent smart driver's information display and media system. I know some people sneer at this but there are also plenty of cubbyholes and decent sized glovebox – I despair at some of the totally useless 'slots' left in some cars. Better to do away with the glovebox altogether. And joy of joys, a space saver tyre!

Active and Excel grades mark the entry point and top of the range with Business Edition and Business Edition Plus versions at the heart of the line-up. Across the board, specifications secure high levels of safety, comfort and convenience, not least with the standard provision of Toyota Safety Sense integrated active safety features on all models.

Key features of the Active grade include Pre-Crash Safety system with Autonomous Emergency Braking, cruise control, air conditioning, six-speaker CD/radio audio, Bluetooth, auto-dimming rear-view mirror, LED rear and daytime running lights and power windows.

Business Edition adds to this strong foundation with the Toyota Touch 2 with Go touchscreen multimedia and navigation system, digital/DAB audio package with eight-inch display, reversing camera, front fog lights, rain-sensing wipers, dusk-sensing headlights, automatic air conditioning, 17-inch alloy wheels and part-Alcantara seat upholstery. The active safety features extend to Automatic High Beam, Lane Departure Warning and Road Sign Assist.

Business Edition Plus delivers further premium features including leather upholstery with Alcantara inserts, front fog lights with a cornering function, LED headlamps, smart entry and rear privacy glass. The LED daytime running lights gain light guides, creating a distinctive lighting signature.

At the top of the range, Excel grade adopts Toyota Touch 2 with Go Plus, adding more sophisticated navigation functions and access to additional connected services. The specification also embraces a 10-speaker audio system, full leather seat upholstery, electrically adjustable front seats with heaters and adaptive headlights that adjust automatically to improve illumination through bends and turns. The Excel Touring Sports gains a panoramic roof. And that was lovely for letting plenty of light in and making the cabin appear even more spacious.

This Avensis has advanced well.



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# Sportage sprints up desirability rankings

By James Parker

In the space of just a few years, Kia's Sportage appears to have gone from inconspicuous to indispensable. This fourth generation car now packs in more equipment, tidies the styling, sharpens the dynamics a tad but keeps the same value, practicality and great after-sales care. The motto here seems to be 'If it aint broke, give it a better stereo'.

This fourth generation model carries over many of the mechanicals of its predecessor, but adds some new technology too.

The petrol range is made up of a normally aspirated 1.6-litre GDI 132PS unit and a much pokier T-GDI turbo 177PS powerplant. Go for the T-GDI variant and you get the brand's latest seven-speed DCT dual-clutch automatic gearbox. Most Sportage buyers though, will probably want a diesel. For buyers wanting to fuel from the black pump, the range starts with a 115PS 1.7-litre CRDi variant. Above that, there's a 2.0-litre CRDi option, offered with a choice of 136PS or 184PS power outputs.

Whatever engine you decide upon, you'll find that refinement levels have been much improved over the third generation model.

As before, buyers get a choice of both front and four wheel drive models, with changes to steering and suspension promising a slightly more involving on-tarmac experience.

If that's a priority for you, then you might want to look at one of the GT Line variants, which are supposed to feature sharper, more athletic handling and deliver a slightly firmer ride.

## Imposing

The front end of this MK4 model Sportage is the biggest change over the outgoing model, thanks to smarter headlamps that sit just above a bolder, lower, wider version of Kia's hallmark 'tiger-nose' grille. These lights are now positioned higher, sweeping back along the outer edges of the sharply-detailed bonnet.

The result is a more imposing appearance and a more stable-looking stance, despite this model retaining the same 1,855mm width as its predecessor. It's 40mm longer though – and more aerodynamic.

At the rear, this fourth generation Sportage features more horizontal forms and clearly defined feature lines, with smooth bodywork on the tailgate, emphasising the car's width and giving this compact SUV a more stable appearance.

Inside, there's a completely new interior, with higher quality materials and a central console that cascades downwards and is tilted 10 degrees towards the driver.

The 30mm increase in this model's wheelbase means that the cabin is more spacious too, with greater headroom front and rear.

At the back, the seats recline further than before for greater long distance comfort. Out back, bootspace is up from the previous model's 465-litre total to 503-litres here.

Have the updates and quality upgrades made to this fourth generation Kia Sportage been sufficient to keep buyers loyal?

We suspect that there's more than enough here to keep existing customers loyal.

Ultimately, it's a car you sit in and wonder just how a Toyota RAV4 can be worth around £5,000 more. That says it all really.



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## TESTED

### Kia Sportage

**Prices:** £17,465-£29,510 on-the-road

**Insurance:** TBC

**CO2 emissions:** 135-189g/km [approx]

**Performance:** [2.0 CRDi 4x4 manual] 0-60mph 10.9s / Max Speed 112mph [est]

**Fuel consumption:** [2.0 CRDi 4x4 manual] (Combined) 49.6 mpg [est]

**Standard safety features:** Twin front side and curtain airbags, ESC, trailer stability, tyre pressure warning, ABS

**Will it fit in your garage?:** Length/Width/Height 4480/1855/1635mm

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Kia range fuel consumption: Urban 19.3–54.3 mpg, Extra-Urban 31.0–70.6 mpg, Combined 26.2–62.8 mpg, CO<sub>2</sub> 117–258 g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Picture for illustration only.

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48 year old, slim, green eyed female, n/s, likes meals out, local theatre, live local bands, nights in, looking for a gentleman, 48-52, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420839

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single, ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673

FEMALE, 37, new to area, would like to meet nice trustworthy man, for friendship hopefully more. Text only to mailbox: 5392585

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Please to call me. Tel No: 0906 515 3007 Box 418167

MICHELLE 39yr old nurse, slim, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking to enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420445

JANE, young 41, very broadminded, seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715

CAROL 37 attractive slim blonde, curves in all the right places, nice personality, good company, looking for caring man for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420757

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 420237

DEBS lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420729

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

BEV 30yr old curvy attractive female, likes music, travel, animals, cosy nights in front of a log fire, looking for affectionate male for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420715

SALLY, 24yrs tall brunette with feminine curves seeks mature older chap, 35+ for discreet fun only, must be experienced. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box: 420247

SUE, 46, confident professional, sporty/active, seeking sensitive interesting guy for intimate evenings in with great food and conversations. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420701

ROSIE, 43yrs, bored and lonely, I don't get out much but would like to meet a nice chap, married or single, fun only pls. Text only Box 4078225

CAROLINE, 42yrs, slim attractive blonde, varied interests and solvent, WLTm honest male of any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420685

JENNI, hairdresser, brunette, caring and fun. WLTm chap any age, must be discreet with car, I have a nice home to meet in. Text only Box: 4139156

CHRIS, 67, brunette, cuddly, WLTm caring, kind gentleman, for days out, meals out, walks etc, and for just being together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420667

KAREN, curvy brunette, 42yrs loves men of all ages and sizes but must make me laugh. I am married with open marriage. Text only Box: 4020257

LILY, genuine lady looking for a genuine man, I like cosy nights in and am a smoker. Text only mailbox no: 5372466

TRISH, 44, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTm male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420601

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for life, seeks big-hearted stocky male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420599

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420563

CHRIS, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420491

SALLY, 46, slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTm similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420475

LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420445

ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dining out, the arts, photography WLTm similar male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420268

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420359

JULIE, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420357

ANN, 38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTm similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420355

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl, call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418169

SARAH, curvaceous brunette, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTm date again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420207

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418795

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous and caring, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTm male for mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420195

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420175

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTm very appreciative, kind confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701

FEEMALE, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for lasting relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5077545

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073

FEEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humor, well presented, WLTm kind, sincere chap to share coffee and a chat. Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back, sincere male for an uncomplicated, loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418925

FEEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTm a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883

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DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809

WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419829

STEVEN, 39, caring and clean, looking for female for fun, laughter and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420861

MALE, 46, slim, WLTm a lady to settle me down, if I don't you please get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420853

62yr old professional male seeks female 55-70, curvy and feminine, for fun, laughter and relationship. Text only to mailbox: 4435871

TREVOR 45, likes cinema, going out, some quiet nights in and looking for someone with similar interests. Text only to mailbox: 5392042

COLIN 48, loving, kind, seeks loving kind caring cuddly lady 48 to 54 for LTR, love and romance. Text only to mailbox: 5308886

MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313181

MARK, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks, WLTm a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420841

MALE 55, stocky, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407741

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779

TOBY, looking for a responsible lady, 30-50, sensible with money, loving, passionate, romantic, single mum of one welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420813

MALE 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, enjoys outdoors, mountain biking, walking, countryside, cinema, days out, seeks genuine, loving female, 30-37, for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420645

MALE, 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build, seeks genuine, caring, lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420721

JOSEPH attractive Asian male, looking for attractive, genuine to female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267

HANDSOME, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTm attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790

ATTRACTIVE male 56 seeks dom female 40 to 70 for close adult fun, any status or size. Text only to mailbox: 4347071

MATURE male, 6ft, slim, fit, clean and smart, residing in central Birmingham, seeks slimish female for fun times. Text only to mailbox: 5383053

MAN 55yrs, 6ft 6in build, single, looking for a special lady to share no strings fun and good times Age/status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5381487

KALU 26 years old single dark/black good looking man looking for a good-looking woman for sexy fun. Text only to mailbox: 5383533/ATTRACTIVE British Indian male, 38, seeks slim, attractive, caring female for friendship, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 227154

ASIAN male, 38, good looking, fit, loving, caring, GSOH, WLTm Asian female, 40-45, for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 235383

SEXY Indian male, 40, dark hair/eyes, fit, seeks fit, sporty, sexy, romantic female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 301781

HANDSOME Indian male, 41, tactile, romantic, likes meals out, days out, walks, nights in, seeks sensitive, intelligent Indian female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 322561

FIT, handsome, Indian male, 40, GSOH, seeks Asian lady, 33-43 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 365160

ATTRACTIVE professional, Asian male, 43, kind, caring, likes travel, romance, dining, seeks attractive lady, 35-50 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 370823

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239

SLIM attractive man WLTm caring lady, 40-58, for friendship, reply and claim free hug. Text only mailbox no: 4172082

BLACK male early 40's, slim, looking for casual adult weekend fun with broadminded, easy going discreet female. Text only mailbox no: 465899

CHRIS, male, 47, single, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks female between 25 and 45 for love and maybe more. Please get in touch. Text only mailbox no: 5352046

45 year old male WLTm lady friend 35 to 55 who likes to enjoy life. Text only mailbox no: 4215562

MALE, five foot ten, stocky build, hazel eyes, had heart broken, WLTm 40+ female for rendezvous and romantic nights in with a meal/drink. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420543

MALE, 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, enjoys outdoors, mountain biking, walking, countryside, cinema, days out, seeks genuine, loving female, 30-37, for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420645



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CALL CHARGES: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 0844 calls cost 7 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk. REPLY BY TEXT: 0906999990 costs 50 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to



# Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

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For items up to £250

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[bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)

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Monday - Friday for the next day's  
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Friday for Monday's advertisement.

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Funeral Directors  
24 hour service

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# 1

## Family



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online at  
[bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)  
using discount code V100  
or simply fill in the coupon in the  
Express & Star.  
You can still place a boxed  
illustrated message for  
£10.00 by completing the  
coupon or by calling  
01902 317878.

## clothing - mens

**MENS LEATHER** biker jacket, large,  
skull on back, £50. o.n.o. 07466  
425607.

## education & tuition

**A LEVELS GCSE 11+ SATs £5\***  
1-2-1 Maths Science  
01902 335879, 07803 170919.

## elderly & disabled

**Acorn / Brooks**  
Straight Stairlifts  
Wanted  
Call: 07967 003600

**Capitol Mobility-Bilston**  
**ARE YOU ON DLA OR PIP?**  
YOU COULD HAVE A SCOOTER OR ELECTRIC  
WHEELCHAIR ON WEEKLY TERMS!  
**01902 409929**  
[www.capitolmobility.co.uk](http://www.capitolmobility.co.uk)

**INVACARE TAURUS** Mobility  
Scooter metallic blue, 31km range,  
only been used twice. All acco-  
series. £400. o.n.o. 01384 824408

**LYNTON STANDARD** lift and  
recliner chair with 5 years guaran-  
tee. 5 months old, was £350, accept  
£450 o.n.o. 01902 494772.

**MOBILITY SCOOTER** excellent  
condition, fits in car boot, new  
battery, £300. 07929 798501.

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350  
can deliver, servicing available.  
Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384  
255019 / 07931 246292.

**STAIR LIFT** for straight stair case,  
£200. Can be seen working.  
01543 871402. Evenings.

**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** recondi-  
tioned lifts from £799. New avail-  
able. 01952 405397/07897 273617

# 2

## Leisure Time

## caravans / motorhomes

**ADRIA** 2-4 berth caravan, good con-  
dition, ready to go, £1,000 o.n.o.  
07486 211435.

**CARAVAN FOR HIRE** BRONZE  
plus 6 berth caravan, with cot based  
at Aberystwyth. Clarach bay, all  
amenities on site. Dog friendly  
07877 692443.

**CARAVAN** for sale, 2 bed, absolute  
bargain, perfect, sited country park,  
no fees till March 17. 07590 124225



**ELDDIS TOURER**, 1999, 12ft, full  
oven, fly screens / blinds, cassette  
toilet / shower room, full awning,  
extras, £1,650. 07497 805154.

**STATIC CARAVAN**  
FOR SALE  
Overlooking the Malvern hills,  
just 1 hour from Birmingham.  
Peaceful, 5 star park and dog  
friendly. Fishing ponds, walks  
and 12 months open season.  
£13,900.  
07908 732586.

**WANTED MOTORHOME OR**  
**CARAVAN**  
Any make, model, year and  
condition.  
With or without MoT.  
Anything considered.  
Private Buyer.  
Please call 07478 353707.

**MUST BE SEEN**

**WILLERBY STATIC**  
**CARAVAN**

Immaculate condition both  
inside and out, 38ft x 12 ft,  
2 beds, main en suite with  
shower, DG. PVC decking with  
lights, satellite TV, sea and  
mountain views.  
Sited at Brynnewen, Borth.  
All 2016 site fees paid.

£16,995.

07831 414009

## caravans wanted

**WANTED**  
**ALL CARAVANS**  
Any age or condition  
Also motorhomes wanted.  
**TOP PRICES PAID**  
Immediate collection.  
**CALL THOMAS**  
**07776373150**

## car boot sales

**COL'S CAR BOOT**  
**& MARKET**  
**OPEN EVERY**  
**SUNDAY**  
at Himley Bypass, B4176  
Ring Colin: 07973 904585  
[www.colscarboot.co.uk](http://www.colscarboot.co.uk)  
**OPEN ALL YEAR**

## fishing

**FISHING TACKLE** WANTED any-  
thing considered. New or Old  
01902 754011 or 07931 588716

## music shop

**RECORDS/CDs WANTED & SOLD**  
Cash paid Vinyl Shop, 5a Cleveland  
Street, WV1 3HL. 07760 168972.

## sports & leisure

**HILL BILLY** Golf Trolley, two batte-  
ries, one as new, two battery charg-  
ers, one as new, £120 o.n.o. 01902  
710588.

**mind, body**  
**& soul**

## massage

**TRADITIONAL CHINESE** Massage  
Closed: Feb 5 - Reopens Mon, Feb  
29. 01902 903659. Compton WV6.

## weddings

## bridal/prom wear

**PROM DRESS DESIGNER** W/E.  
Friday Feb 26th: 9-6. Saturday Feb  
27th: 9-4. Lifestyles 01902 457306.

## what's on

## antique fairs

**ANTIQUE/COLLECTORS FAIR**  
Kinver Comm Centre, Sun 7th Feb-  
ruary (also Bromsgrove every Fri)  
One Stall available. EST 1979.  
Waverley, Next Book Fair Sun 21st  
Feb. 0121 550 4123

**ANTIQUES AND COLLECTORS**  
Fair Sunday 7th Feb. Oak Park  
Leisure Center, Walsall Wood WS9  
9PQ. 10am-3pm. Entrance £1.50  
OAP £1.00 Tel 07947271947

# 3

## Home & Services

## collectables & memorabilia

**MATCHBOX CONVOY** (Iceroad  
Truckers) series collection £100.  
Burgas 3 iconic 1930 racers, £10  
each. 01384 370239.

## furniture

**BROWN LEATHER** three piece  
suite, 8 months old, genuine reason  
for sale, £550. 01902 472594.



**CREAM LEATHER**  
**CHESTERFIELD**  
**3 + 2 SEATER SOFA**  
Top Quality. Leather not Faux  
or Bonded. Cost £3,250.  
As New. Still in wrapping.  
Price £1,500.  
07724 302950.

**DARK MAHOGANY** extending  
dining table with six chairs, very  
good condition, £80 one. Buyer  
must collect. 01384 638189.

**DINING TABLE**  
68ins long with 6 upholstered  
chairs. £300. Double bed £35.  
Technics organ and stool £175.  
Three piece leather cream suite  
£100.  
01562 820307.

**THREE AND TWO SEATER**  
Settees. Chocolate brown. As new.  
£250. o.n.o. 07583 283190.

**TWO X 2 modern, red leather**  
settees, very good condition.  
£250 one. 01902 840480.

## household appliances

**Electric Cookers £69**  
**Gas Cookers £89**  
**Washing Machines £79**  
**Fridge Freezers £89**  
**01902 420030 or**  
**07966 673960**

**FRIDGE MASTER** FRIDGE  
FREEZER. Frost free. 8 weeks old,  
still under warranty. Half list price.  
£125. 07790 463783.

## items wanted

**WANTED ANY OLD TOOLS**  
**CASH PAID**  
Hand tools, anything considered.  
**01543 452491 / 07539 340307**

**All gold 9ct up to £300 per ounce**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester  
Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins  
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY  
• Old toys • Clocks • Paintings  
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental items  
Pre'47 silver coins All war medals etc  
**ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING**  
**HOUSE CLEARANCES**  
**01922 495066 or**  
**07971 783206**

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to care-  
fully consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any of  
their items.

**A ABSOLUTELY BEST** price given  
for single items or houses cleared.  
Antique, old, reproduction. Call:  
01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

**AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS**, Antique  
guns, taxidermy- big bore guns,  
traps etc wanted. 07968 624202

**BEACON CENTRE** For The Blind  
require unwanted furniture / house  
clearances. 01902 886799.

**BRITISH COINS AND MEDALS**  
wanted by private collector.  
Please contact 01902 676540.

**CASH OFFERED** for bric-a-brac,  
DVDs, games, household items,  
etc. Quick collection!  
07436 018819.

**FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES**  
Tickets and other sports  
memorabilia.  
Top prices paid for the  
right item.  
Call Paul on 01543 251743.

**FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES**  
Wanted. Cash paid for pre 1970.  
Large collections. (300+). After  
1970 considered. 0206 5607616.

**RECORDS WANTED**  
50's, 60's, 70's, Rock, Punk,  
Rock / Roll, Jazz / 90's Indie.  
Collections bought.  
Music Memorabilia, Promo  
Posters, autographs, etc, etc.  
Top prices paid.  
Telephone 07966 252439.

**WANTED DAVID BOWIE**  
Blackstar Vinyl Album.  
07938 840776.

## t.v. / home entertainment

## service

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs,  
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All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days.  
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## specialists at your service

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**1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS**  
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**WE WILL BEAT ANY**  
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**Work Guaranteed**  
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**01384 429166**  
**VISA 01543 439095**  
**01922 716029**  
**07833 738857**

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**THE ORIGINAL AERIAL**  
**SPECIALIST, THE BEST!**  
Est 1955 - 59 years at the top!  
Recommended by thousands  
Genuine, honest, 100% reliable  
WE HAVE WATCHED THEM ALL COME AND GO  
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ANY PROBLEM SOLVED

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• We repair any TV's  
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**CLEAR VISION AERIALS**. Free-  
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from £79. Dishes from £79. OAP  
DISCOUNT. Tel: 01902 752036.

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All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
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07900 578897 / 07801 748853.

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## Amanda for Blinds

### 7 Vertical Blinds from £195

Also Great Deals On...

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Plantation Shutters : Made to Measure Curtains

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**DAVIES & SON BUILDERS**  
Over 35 years experience in the industry.  
All aspects of building work including:  
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People.  
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**A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices.  
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
Call Paul 07870 341089

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Business/  
Domestic.  
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**07884 353732**

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Domestic Cleaning & Ironing Service.  
Friendly, Reliable & Trustworthy.  
Call Anita on: 07854 163 804.

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## SAME DAY LOW COST REPAIRS

Washing Machines  
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12 MONTHS GUARANTEE  
New and refurbished machines  
available with free fitting.  
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Blockages cleared fast.  
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**CRETE BY DESIGN**  
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0121 531 5520 portwayfencing.com

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Specialist of floor repairs and  
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FREE ADVICE & ESTIMATES  
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- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
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Fitted, Serviced and Repaired  
Same Day Service  
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07761 973975

**READERS ARE ADVISED**  
To check that anyone  
carrying out any Gas work  
is Gas Safe Registered.  
It is an offence under the Gas  
Safety (Installation and Use)  
Regulations 1998 to carry out  
gas work in the UK without  
being on the Gas Safe Register.

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**25 CARS FROM £500**  
Full MOT's  
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**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**CITROEN XSARA** Picasso, 2005 reg., 1600cc, MoT, nice condition. £395, ono. 0121 557 9144

**FORD MONDEO 2.0 LX 2002** Green, A/C, CD, alloys. Very good condition. MoT June 16. Just serviced, 2 owners. Only 49,000 genuine miles. £1,200, o.n.o. Telephone **07887 593617**

**GRAND VOYAGER**, 2002 2.5 Diesel, Manual, good condition for year. 154,000 miles, MoT till June. £1,050 o.n.o. 07976 600110

**HONDA JAZZ** 1.350, 02 plate, FSH, full new exhaust system, light metallic green, good condition. £1,000, 07865 290473

**HONDA JAZZ 1.4DSi Sport**, 2002, 73,000 miles, SH, 12 months MoT, silver, great Family car, good condition. £1,295ono. 07792 356203

**MAZDA 323i** 1997, 7 months MoT, clean car, £375. 01902 674562

**PEUGEOT 207S** 3Dr, silver, 06 Reg., 56,000 miles, 10 months MoT, lady owner, lovely condition, £1,500. 07816 094728

**PEUGEOT 406 GTX** 2.2 HDi, saloon, fully loaded, 02, 8 months MoT, 125,896k, blue, good condition, £695 ono. 07885 255221

**RENAULT MEGANE** 1.4 52 plate, 109,000 on clock, MoT Nov 2016, part service history £700 ono. 07956 670563

**RENAULT MEGANE** 1.4 52 plate, 109,000 on clock, MoT Nov 2016, part service history £750 ono. 07956 670563

**ROVER 620Si** R reg, MoT end March, Honda engine, good runner, £275 ono. 07719 923101

**TOYOTA YARIS** 1000cc, 5-dr, 95,000 miles, silver, FSH, excellent condition, one owner, £795 ono. 07957 736635

**VAUXHALL ASTRA** 1.7DTi, diesel, X reg, white, full MoT, owned last 8 years, excellent condition, multifunction steering wheel, 136k radio/CD, fitted never used electric tow bar, cloth interior, clean, very reliable. £800 ono. 07866 750420

**VAUXHALL CORSA** red, 52 plate, 1.0, 3Dr, MoT'd, starts first time, good runner, £495. 07791 46409

**VAUXHALL CORSA** SXi, 1.2 2001, full MoT, service history, CD, PAS, beautiful condition, £575 ono. 01384 440258, 07935 337167

**VAUXHALL VECTRA** SRI, 1.8 petrol, black MoT till Aug, many new parts, FSH, £1,500 ono. 01902 743562

**VW BEETLE** 2002 reg, MoT, very good condition, low miles, alloys, alarm, AC, EW, stereo £925 ono. 07754 557661

**cars over £1500**

**AUDI A3** 1.9TDi 2003, MoT June, 93,000 miles, FSH, 2 owners, very good condition, £1,750 ono. 07722 385693

**CITROEN PICASSO** 7 seater, 2007, 87,600 miles, metallic silver, abs, electric pack, air con, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, cruise control. £3,500 ono. 07790 433746

**FORD FOCUS** 2.0 Ghia 56, 74,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, long MoT, 5dr, very good condition, £1,699. 07879 403302



**HONDA CIVIC ES**

2008, 64k, bronze, abs, e/w, air bag, e/m, air con, Honda s/h, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, c/c, CC, pas, alloys, stereo, CD, glass roof, suede type seats. £4,769 ono. 0751 8212721.

**KIA SPORTAGE** 2012, 12,600 miles, white, KX3 Sat Nav, immaculate. Phone for full spec. £13,450 ono. 07854 663989.

**MAZDA 5** 56 Reg, silver, 10 months MoT, 7-seater, 76,000 miles, immaculate condition, £3,000. 01902 653907 or 07827 320179.

**MERCEDES C200** Kompressor Elegance, Auto, Estate, dark blue, MoT Oct 2, 2016, service history, £1,900. 01384 273177.

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## Norton take step towards taking title once more

NORTON Social A took another significant step towards retaining the Stourbridge Snooker League Premier Division championship with a 3-2 win on the tables of one of their pursuers, the 2014 champions Hotshots SC A.

Brandhall Labour held on to second place defeating Hotshots' B team 3-2.

Baggeridge Social celebrated their first win, 3-2 at home to Moor Pool & Snooker A. Kingswinford Cons B beat Moor Pool & Snooker B 5-0. Third-placed Kingswinford Cons A fought back from 2-0 down at Norton Social B.

Wombourne lost the first two frames at Stourbridge Inst B but staged a recovery. Moor Pool & Snooker B also went 2-0 down at home to the Institute B team, but fought back to win 3-2.

Kinver A lost 3-2 to Amblecote Institute B. Stourbridge Institute A took all five frames at Kinver C. Stourbridge Old Edwardians stretched their division two lead to eight points, with a 4-1 win at home to Kingswinford Cons D but Amblecote Royal British Legion were surprisingly beaten 3-2 by Stourbridge Institute D.

Stourbridge Inst C edged out Amblecote Inst C, while Kingswinford Snooker Centre recorded a 4-1 at Amblecote Inst D.

**Results:** Premier Division Baggeridge Social 3 Moor Pool & Snooker A 2; Brandhall Labour 3 Hotshots SC B 2; Hotshots SC A 2 Norton Social A 3

**First Division:** Norton Social B 3 Kingswinford Cons A 2; Kinver Const A 2 Amblecote Inst B; Kingswinford Cons B 5 Moor Pool & Snooker B 0; Stourbridge Inst B 2 Wombourne 3; Kinver Const C 0 Stourbridge Inst A 5; Moor Pool & Snooker B 3 Stourbridge Inst B 2  
**Second Division:** Amblecote Inst D 1 Kingswinford SC 4; Amblecote RBL B 2 Stourbridge Inst D 3; S/D Old Edwardians 4 Kingswinford Cons D 1; Kingswinford Cons C 4 Kinver Const D 1; Stourbridge Inst C 3 Amblecote Inst C 2

## Yozza edged out in latest darts contest

TIPTON'S Jamie Hughes won his group but then lost at the last 128 stage at the BDO Dutch Open.

Martin 'Wolfie' Adams retained the men's crown at the Bonte Wever in Assen. 'Yozza' had kept hold of the Romanian Classic overseas the previous weekend but couldn't make it back-to-back ranking titles.

The World Championship semi-finalist, was edged out in the last leg 3-2 by Mats Giles.

The 29-year-old was placed into Group 128, with over 2,000 male throwers competing. Hughes, who received a bye past his first game, recorded three whitewashes in four group clashes, including a 3-0 win over Justin Massy in the group final.

He also shut out Michael Hollander and Per Hendriksen 3-0, either side of a 3-1 win over Ferry Beijveld.

# Lennox to make up for lost time



Halesowen boxer Lennox Clarke

HALESOWEN'S Lennox Clarke is eager to make up for lost time when he battles for a belt at Walsall Town Hall this month.

The hard-hitting super middleweight tops the bill when professional boxing returns to the venue on Friday February 19.

Clarke was due to take on Midlands middleweight champion Craig Cunningham last October, but pulled out through injury. Brummie southpaw Cunningham has now moved on with the title. Instead,

Clarke will attempt to seize the British Challenge crown against three-time Southern area title challenger Richard Horton, aged 34.

The 'Undefeated' show is promoted by Black Country Boxing and ring legend Ricky Hatton, who will lead Wednesbury's Sam Evans, Pauly Upton, Reuben Arrowsmith and big heavyweight Nathan Gorman into battle.

A Black Country heavyweight features in West Bromwich's Matt Gordon. Also in action is Manny Zaber,

from Old Hill. Meanwhile, Christian Amendola hit a steep learning curve as his England Youth Championship hopes evaporated.

He was pulled out by the referee before the first round was over of his bout at the Wallace Centre, Stoke-on-Trent.

Amendola, from Priory Park Boxing Club in Dudley, swapped leather at 60kg in the area semi-final against Jamie Edwards, from Triumph in Coventry, but came off second best.

# Greg is Lynch-pin to widen golf's appeal

**PGA pro Greg Lynch hopes that coaching youngsters across the Black County proves a sure-fire way to make the sport of golf cool.**

Lynch, who hails from Birmingham but began his training at Halesowen Golf Club before moving on to coach at Warley Woods, set up his GL Golfing Academy almost seven years ago and has since coached thousands across the region.

Generally one of the sports that struggles with an elitist image, golf has faced an uphill struggle in recent times but things are brightening up according to Lynch.

He said: "A big part of what I'm trying to do is get the sport away from elitism. Golf needs to be more accessible, especially for the youngsters. "What we're doing at Warley Woods at the moment is great. It's a nine hole pay and play.

"There is no dress code. You can show up in your jeans and trainers rather than the old style of colours and trousers, where you needed a membership. It can definitely put youngsters off.

### Several

"With Rory McIlroy you have a good young sportsman putting a across a message about accessibility." Lynch, who played several pro am events and turned professional in 2008, soon found himself turning his hand to coaching a year later. "We're coaching around 800 students every year through the academy," he added.

"My vision was to grow the game and its participation levels. Everything spiralled from there, really. I work with around 25-30 schools in the area including 15 in Sandwell. All of the schools have taken really well to it. Brandhall Primary School in Oldbury is one of the schools I've been working with for a while and I try and encourage the kids to get involved at Warley Woods.

"With the primary schools I tend to make it more fun-based activities. They learn the basics – the hold and the stance – and if they enjoy it they come to the club and learn more about techniques. Back when I learned it was very 'old school'. We would line up and it was almost like an army procedure, but research has shown the kids want it more fun and relaxed."

Springfield Primary School, in Rowley Regis, and Ormiston Forge Academy, in Cradley Heath,



Pro golfer Greg Lynch, during a golf workshop at Oakham Primary, Tividale, helping youngsters get into the sport

are two more schools looking to acquire Lynch's unique training services, while Bristnall Hall in Oldbury is another secondary school that proves children in their teenage years are also keen to get involved.

He added: "The Lyng Primary School (West Bromwich) has really tried to push it into its curriculum. It links with maths and helps with things like life skills and honesty. We're really trying to promote things like teamwork, respect and honesty."

Lynch received a huge set of Tri-Golf equipment from the Golf Foundation that helps the coaching function. He also receives financial help from other organisations, such as the Sandwell Play Scheme on behalf of Sandwell Council.

Any schools, colleges or those of any age looking to get in the swing of things can contact Lynch on enquiries@glgolfacademy.com or visit <http://glgolfacademy.com/> – for several different tuition courses.

## Morris eager to get back in the saddle for Heathens

CRADLEY fans favourite Ashley Morris is counting down the days to his first meeting back with the club.

Morris, who won every honour possible with the Heathens during his four seasons with them, is set for an emotional return to the green, red and white.

And he admits he will be on guard to avoid any complacency after a successful spell with King's Lynn in the top flight last season.

Morris said: "Obviously I haven't ridden in the National League for a couple of years, but I know I'm still going to have to be at my best – and I can't wait to get started back with Cradley.

"I obviously haven't got a team place in the Premier League but I'm viewing the situation positively and I'm delighted to be back with Cradley.

"I'm excited for the season to start now and I'm just looking to make the most of it. If I'm going out and winning races it can only help me and build my confidence no matter what level it's at, so that's what I'll be trying to do.

"The last season I had with Cradley was great, so if I can get back to that form and win races on a regular basis again to help us win meetings that will be brilliant."

Tickets are running out as the new-look Heathens prepare to meet with supporters for the first time ahead of the new season.

Only 30 tickets remain for their Season Launch Night at Cradley Heath Liberal Club on Monday, March 21.

They cost £5, from the club shop in Cradley Heath Market or on the club's official website, [cradleyheathens.co.uk](http://cradleyheathens.co.uk), via Paypal.

## Hosts extend unbeaten run to 15 games

**Hereford Lads 2 Team Dudley 1**  
HEREFORD Lads Club extended their league unbeaten run to 15 matches with a 2-1 win over Team Dudley at the County Ground.

The promotion hopefuls took the lead with seven minutes gone, as Matt Evans rose, unmarked and highest from six yards out to meet a corner and give TD the start they dreaded.

A very difficult start for the students didn't get much better. TD couldn't muster much up on either front, although Alex Pinches did put the ball in the net but was flagged, correctly, offside.

Team Dudley did get better as the half went on, but it took until an hour in to level, as Nathan Jones blasted home.

But with 15 minutes remaining, Evans headed home the winner.

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## Victories put Glassboys in play-off reach

**Stourbridge 2 Marine 0**  
THE Glassboys moved to within a point of the play-offs with a goal in each half on Monday night.

The visitors played their part in the game and it was the Merseysiders who made the running early on. But they couldn't convert their first half pressure into goals.

Stourbridge grabbed the opener on 19 minutes when Leon Broadhurst broke into the box and squared it for Karl Hawley to easily score his 22nd goal of the season.

On 52 minutes though it was 2-0 when Justin Richards laid the ball off for Chris Lait who stepped into the box and side-footed the ball into the net.

The result lifted the Glassboys to sixth in the table, one place outside the play-off places with three games in hand.

**Stourbridge 5 Hyde United 1**  
ASSISTANT manager Jon Ford has demanded "more of the same" from his Stourbridge side after last Saturday's emphatic demolition job over the Tigers.

Goals from Karl Hawley, Matt Dodd and Chris Lait ended the contest by half-time before second half goals from Justin Richards and Ashley Vincent rounded off an impressive victory for the Glassboys.

"It was the perfect day apart from conceding right at the end," Ford said.

**Barwell 3 Stourbridge 1**  
DAYS earlier, Stourbridge saw their play-off hopes hit as they were beaten at bogey side Barwell – despite taking the lead on 32 minutes through Karl Hawley.

The Leicestershire side levelled two minutes from half-time via a wind-assisted Alex Tompkinson effort.

Sub Luke Barlow fired play-off rivals Barwell in front on 52 minutes before Brady Hickey finished off the scoring with 12 minutes to go.

## Heavyweight champ Fury tops the bill at sporting dinner

CONTROVERSIAL world heavyweight champion Tyson Fury will be the feature attraction of a sportsman's dinner in Birmingham next month.

The reigning IBO, WBO and WBA 'super' titlist will take centre stage at the newly-opened Vox Centre – part of Resorts World in the National Exhibition Centre – on Friday February 19.

The 27-year-old Mancunian will be interviewed on the night by Telford's Richie Woodhall, the former WBC super middleweight champion and boxing pundit.

Standard tickets have all sold out but gold and platinum passes are still available, either per person or at a reduced rate for tables of 10.

Gold, costing £75, includes seating in the middle of the hall, a three-course meal and a photo opportunity, for an extra £20, with Fury.

VIP, at £150, includes 'premier' seating, the meal and the picture included in the price. Sponsorship packages are also available. Call promoter Ken Purchase on 07976 842 383 or to buy online, visit [www.boxfroguk.com](http://www.boxfroguk.com)

## DK runners face sticky conditions

IT was another Saturday and another muddy field to run round for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club.

Rather than the bread and butter of the Birmingham League this was like a cup game as the muddy field was in Loughborough and the event was the Midlands Cross Country Championships, attracting clubs from all four points of the compass, making it a particularly competitive event.

Originally due to be held at Stafford Common, waterlogging at the original venue meant a change of plan with Prestwold Hall in Leicestershire stepping in at almost the eleventh hour.

### Athletics

The additional travelling distance put a number of runners off but DK were still able to field a strong team to race round the three lap, 12 kilometre course.

Despite a very gluey surface churned up by previous age group races, Ben Foster was first home for the blue hoops in 55th place in 43.07, Rob Meredith was not too far behind in 62nd in 43.20. However Matt Biggs was forced to pull out after two laps, the sticky conditions and uncertain surface aggravating a hamstring problem.

This left Dave Norman to take third place for the club in 161st in 49.10, Daren Thompson finishing fourth counter in 166th in 49.35, Simon Blizard was 178th in 49.54 and Darran Bishop was sixth counter for the club finishing in 199th in 50.59.

Knocking on the door of the A team, Mark Homer came home in 216th in 52.07, Kieran Pitt was 250th in 54.18, Paul Silk was 268th in 55.30 and Graham Wildgoose was 272nd in 55.52.

With Notts AC, Tipton Harriers and Owls AC taking the medals DK came home a very respectable 13th of the 32 clubs, ahead of the big-hitters of Wolverhampton & Bilston, Birchfield Harriers and Halesowen AC.

# GROUNDHOG DAY FOR DK

DK 16 Bridgnorth 23

DK were left with a feeling of Groundhog Day thanks to a narrow defeat with a late try.

Over the last two weeks DK have played the top two and have only been beaten narrowly on each occasion.

DK had kicked off poorly with the wind, and handed the early initiative to Bridgnorth which they had soon turned into points with an early try.

On the 17th minute Bridgnorth were trying to relieve the pressure, and were pinged by the referee for crossing, up stepped Duncan Tompkins and DK were on the scoreboard.

The DK pressure built up during this period of the game, and a quick penalty by Connah Jones was rewarded by the awarding of another penalty closer to the posts, Tompkins kicked for goal and put DK into the lead.

The analytical eye would probably look to the last 10 minutes of the first half has the period in which DK should have won the game. Firstly, there was an unfortunate handling error by Nic Adams, the only blot on a good comeback performance, which may have led to points; the ever reliable Tompkins missed a penalty shot and the third followed an excellent penalty kick from Tommy Huggins into the clubhouse corner, leading to a DK five-metre scrum, which DK won, only to be stopped by a knock on.

The third quarter has been the time in recent weeks when DK have taken control on the game and scored points, but not here.

Bridgnorth inside centre Will Crossley, powered over to make it 10-6, and that was soon 15-6 when the visitors took full advantage of a loose ball to add a further try.

DK came back into the game and the award of a penalty try was followed by a Tompkins conversion.

The pressure was kept on by DK and Tompkins was kicking another penalty to give DK a 16-15 advantage.

So DK were in the lead with 10 minutes to go, until Groundhog Day struck again.

Bridgnorth 10 Matt Farrington cut through the defence to score, making it 20-16 and the scoring was finished by a Bridgnorth penalty.

DK travel to Burton on February 13.



Ollie Shakespeare seen for DK with the ball against Bridgnorth in a closely fought contest

## Pressure not converted into points

**Stour 3 Leicester Lions 10**  
STOURBRIDGE'S National 2 North campaign suffered a major blow when they lost at home to Leicester Lions.

Despite dominating first half possession and territory, Stour were guilty of trying to force matters and too many final passes went astray as their

endeavour failed to unlock a well-organised Lions defence that repelled everything thrown at it.

Stour salvaged a losing bonus point but only thanks to the wayward kicking radar of Lions outside half Jon Williams who missed four kicks at goal. After a scoreless first half Lions

struck immediately in the second period with a try for winger Sam Benjamin followed quickly by another for replacement Will Roach.

A late penalty by full-back Tom Mitchell brought Stour within a score but ultimately they paid the price for not converting pressure into points.

## Huge total too much for Cookley

**Swindon (96-2) lost to Enville 'A' (97-1)**  
ENNVILLE 'A' elected to bowl, and a fine opening spell by Tom Bingham (0-12) and George Roberts contained the Swindon openers, for whom Dave Silcox scored 25 no, to 17 from four overs.

Paul Clarke seemed to ease the stranglehold and Swindon began to score more freely. Luke McDonald was run out for 17. Lee Passmore set about the Enville attack, reached 25 quickly and retired, but the other Swindon batsmen couldn't repair the slow start and the innings finishing at 96.

Enville 'A' got off to a bad start losing Rhodri Parfitt in the first over, but Spencer Mann (27 no) joined Matt Branch (26 no). Once the opening salvo from Passmore had been repelled, the Swindon change bowlers could not contain Enville, who reached their target in comfort in the 10th over.

**Pedmore (160-3) beat Cookley (64-2)**  
by 96 runs

DAN Jones (12), opening with Dave Skelding for Pedmore, started in fine style hitting Steve Anderson for three fours before being bowled by Todd Henderson.

Matt Porter (39 no) made batting look easy and Cookley found the ensuing onslaught difficult to contain. The only batsman to fail for Pedmore was John Herdman who having hit one glorious back wall boundary was bowled by Matt Wood. Paul Taylor (27 no) and Dan Such (20) continued scoring rapidly, finishing on 160.

Cookley, facing a mammoth total, started cautiously with Henderson making a guest appearance.

The big total made the task almost impossible and perhaps a win was out of reach, but Cookley were aided by some wayward bowling, wides being second top scorer.

## Yeltz suffer third defeat on the trot

**Whitby Town 2 Halesowen Town 1**  
HALESOWEN suffered their third league defeat in a row, with all three goals in the game coming in eight second-half minutes.

Mikey Roberts missed an open goal at the start of the second half but made no mistake moments later.

Kaiman Anderson equalised for Halesowen on 57 minutes when his shot was blocked by the legs of goalkeeper Shane Bland, but the ball looped into the goal.

Roberts saw a mis-hit shot squeeze past Rowley for the winner.

Halesowen are in 14th place ahead of Saturday's visit of Salford City.

★★★

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